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A  
L E T T E R

T O

A Person of Distinction in Town,

F R O M

A GENTLEMAN in the Country.

C O N T A I N I N G,

Some REMARKS on a late PAMPHLET,  
intituled, *A Free and Candid Inquiry, &c.*

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—Is there not some chosen Curse,  
Some hidden Thunder in the Stores of Heav'n,  
Red with uncommon Wrath to blast the Man  
Who owes his Greatness to a Country's Ruin!

ADDISON'S CATO.

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D U B L I N :

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A  
L E T T E R  
T O

A Person of Distinction in Town,

F R O M

A G E N T L E M A N in the Country.

My LORD,

**Y**OU desire my Opinion of the Pamphlet you sent me, and I think it the first unreasonable Injunction I ever met with from you : It is a Production of so odd a Nature, that it is very hard to reduce it to a Subject for Criticism : To say the Truth, its first Appearance is so ambiguous, that it has puzzled many People to determine whether it is intended to befriend or hurt the Cause it would seem to espouse. For my Part, I think that, on a minute Perusal, there is no Difficulty in seeing that the Author was seriously doing his best : There is a hearty Zeal and Interestedness appearing, in the strongest and most unaffected Colours, through many Passages of it, that must, I think, leave little Doubt of the Gentleman's Sincerity, with every Reader of tolerable Discernment.

A 2

The

The Difficulty I complain of does not therefore consist in any Uncertainty about the Intention of this Work, but in the Irregularity of the Manner, and Absurdity of the Matter, of the Arguments; the confident Assertions of the most notorious Falshoods, and the poisonous Virulence of the Reflections: For all these, and numberless other *Peccata* which occur in every Line, put the Patience doubly to a Trial; first, in following such an Author through all his tedious and ridiculous Perplexities; and next, in restraining from that Invective, which, however merited, does no Honour to the Observer.

I shall, however, at your Desire, let you know what occurred to me on the Perusal of this extraordinary Piece. I will take no Pains to methodize or adorn my Thoughts; they are your Due, you shall have them in their natural Dress, and, I hope, will approve them; but let your Good-nature, I beg you, act only on your private Judgment, and do not hurry them to the Press merely upon your own Liking; your Eye sees false through the *Medium* of Friendship, therefore take some auxiliary Opinion, not subject to the same Deception, to your Aid; if your Opinions concur, you have my Leave to print what I send you; if the Sentiments are nugatory or injudicious, they will, at least, do no Harm; they are the Produce of a good Intention, not glossed or varnished with a splendid Diction.

I know not yet how long my Letter will be;  
but



but if it can conveniently be done, I think a News-paper will be the best chosen Vehicle for Observations on a Writer of this Class : There is a Propriety, methinks, in displaying even weak and intentional Villainy, and exhibiting an Incendiary in the same Manner, which Custom has appointed for the advertising of lesser Rogues, and hanging them out to the public Caution. — But this to your own Discretion.

I will not, however, use you so ill as to deceive you, and therefore will not pretend that your Commands have been my sole Motive for this Letter : they, indeed, have added much to my Alacrity ; but I must also confess, what would certainly be collected from my following Sentiments, that I take great Pleasure in an Occasion of declaring my Feelings on a Subject of this Nature, and glorying in the Profession, that I am inviolably attached in Favour of that Interest which is the true, old Basis of this Kingdom's Welfare, and which this Writer has laid himself to ridicule and abuse ; my youthful Blood beat high in its Behalf, and the Experience of many Years has applauded and confirmed my Choice. Do not, however, think yourself excused from Severity, when you exact even these pleasing Declarations from me in a Manner so very disagreeable as investigating this Author through all the Turns and Doubles of his scandalous Performance.

It is, no Doubt, thought intolerably insolent, in your polite World, that such *useless* and *inglorious* Members of the Community, as we Country Gentlemen are, should presume to speak of  
political

political Movements with any Degree of Freedom ; but it will be so, even in Despite of ourselves ; few landed Men find themselves free from this impertinent Piece of Vanity ; I don't know how it is, but a Property in the Soil of the Country will still bring with it not only a Solicitude and Concern about every public Measure, but also an idle, tho' irremovable, Prejudice that we have both a Right and a Power of censuring them ; nay, a better Right than many who, though concern'd in the Conduct of Affairs, are no Sharers in the Events that may happen.

I wish you had told me who is thought the Author among you, for, at this Distance, it is hard to guess ; every Reader has, indeed, the highest Reason to suppose in general, if not from the Motto, at least from the Matter and Form, of his Treatise, that this excellent Dissertation on Politics and Properties is the Work of no other than some little, four, attending Chaplain ; all that Rancor and Bitterness, that entire Deficiency of Humanity and Politeness, that Steadiness in Falshood, that alternate Adulation and Insolence, both exerted with precipitate Stupidity, and that *feeling* Manner of exhibiting his grand Patron's *domestic Virtues* and *Generosity*, are palpably the Effluvia of such a Composition, the Result of, *at least, two* debauched *Parts*, a pampered Stomach and a heated Brain. But I wish we knew the Name ; for my own Part, had the Book a little more of the Buffoon in it, I would venture to answer for the Author, and fill up the Blank in the Title Page, with the recommendatory Epithets of *Apostate*, *Parasite*, and SPY

But

But to proceed to my Task. — Our Author sets out with a very effectual Recommendation of his Performance; he tells us “ That every Person “ who walks the Streets knows as much of these “ Matters as himself;” “ that, indeed, he has “ no Opportunities of coming to a Knowledge of “ them, and that tho’ there are Divisions among “ us, yet the Causes of them are known to but “ few, if any.” Nay, he informs us (in *Page 9.*) that “ neither the Leaders, nor their Associates, “ know what it is they contend about.” From all this one would expect but a very indifferent *Ecclaircissement*; but the Author, after a Flourish or two more, steps with the greatest Ease into a profound *Inquiry*, not only into the Nature and Particulars of our present Feuds, but also into those latent Principles in the human Breast, from whence these Divisions take their Rise.

He next proceeds to play upon us that stale Device of Innovators, and their Adherents, to lay our Caution asleep by inculcating a Notion of Security, and assuring us, that no Harm is intended. This Stroke of Policy he often repeats, and tells us, as a farther Motive to Peace and Harmony, that *England*, our *common Parent*, is now without Parties and Distinctions, and that in all *Deference* and *Duty* to her we should follow her Example. Whether this Fact, or the Conclusion drawn from it, be just or not, we are obliged to our Adviser; and beg Leave to assure him, that we are as well inclined to enjoy the inestimable Blessings of Tranquillity as *England*, or any other Nation under the Sun, and (in *Swift’s* Phrase) to possess our Brogues and Potatoes in Peace; who are they then that hinder us? This

This leads me to an Observation which may help my Author out of the political Difficulty into which he has plunged, in *P.* 11, & 12. and enable him to reconcile those seemingly contradictory *Phænomena*, which the great Curiosity of his Researches has in that Place started to his Imagination.

He there is pleased to represent us *Insulars* as disposed to Faction, and proud to change to a prodigious Degree, allows this was not the Character of our Forefathers, and then puzzles himself for the Causes of the Change. By *Insulars*, I presume, he means to distinguish US of this particular Island, or he speaks quite foreign to the Purpose. Now that WE not only have been, but are, *at this Day*, distinguishable for a natural Propensity to social Benevolence in private Life, and to the most pacific Measures in public Concerns, let History, let our recent Conduct in the most dangerous Crises, and our universal Character among Foreigners, evince. This being undeniable, a Clue will be easily found to lead to the Source of our present Divisions; which, I fancy, will be found to take their Rise, not from our *natural* Dispositions, but from the Assiduity of some choice Spirits, who have imported, among other exotic Fashions, the laudable and noble Principles of spiritual and military Dominion. *French Heraldry* will tell you, these two are the *Supporters* of the royal Arms of that Kingdom. Now, because we have a Whim in Favour of our *old Way*, this Gentleman says we degenerate from our honest Ancestors. True it is, indeed, that for many Years neither *they* or *we* have had such a Tryal of our *national Tenacity* as at present; thro' that  
happy

happy Period the Felicity of a poor, but quiet, Situation has crowned this Isle. Struggling thro' the Disadvantages of an unreclaimed Soil, and a limited Commerce, we were not worthy the *Attention* of *polite Strangers* ; hence it was, that, as our Author observes, we could *then* look forward *with Pleasure*, and provide for the Happiness of Posterity — that noblest of human Cares !

Permit me here, my Lord, to digress for a Minute into a favourite Sentiment ; I have always thought that a tender Regard to the succeeding Generation is one of the most infallible Directors both in private and public Life ; in the first, it is the best Preservative of our Souls, our Bodies, and our Fortunes ; and as to Politics, it must, I think, effectually prevent that greatest of human Evils, *the concerting or assisting any public Plan, which, to gratify the Ambition and Avarice of a FEW, must curtail the Liberties of the Unborn.* Who, that will allow himself the least Reflection, can bring himself to tie the *indissoluble* Knot of Misery on the infant Hand, for the paltry Lucre of a *temporary* Place or Pension ? Can the Promoters give an Equivalent for the Mite of a single Suffrage toward so iniquitous a Scheme ? SOME, it is true, may think their Families sufficiently *secured*, and OTHERS may be indifferent to the Welfare of Posterity, as they are to their Procreation ; but these are so very few, that this Argument may be said to be universally affecting.

I stand not single, my Lord, in this Opinion ; thousands of honest Hearts can vouch its Truth, and Antiquity sanctifies the pious Tenet. Mar-

nages were encouraged as much to secure the Loyalty of the living Members to the Republic, by interesting them in its Fate, as to increase its Potency by the Accession of new ones. Eunuchs were introduced into Power by the politic *Cyrus*, as being detached from all Connexions with the present and future Race of Mankind, and, consequently, devoted to his Designs. For the very same Reasons they were excluded all Share in the Administration by the good *Severus*, who held them in Abhorrence: he saw both from Theory and Experience what Mischief they were capable of; selfish, pampered, designing, ambitious, and destitute of every endearing Tie that enlarges and amends the human Heart, they aimed solely at their own Elevation, and were Enemies, by Principle, to the public Good. Among other distinguishing Parts of their Character in those Times, we find the following *remarkable* one, *CLAUDENTES Principem suum, et agentes ante omnia NE QUID SCIAT.*

But to return to my Author. — The Tenor of what he labours, from his 5th to his 12th Page inclusively, seems to be this, as well as can be collected from the irregular and ambiguous Manner of his Writing; that our Veneration toward our Neighbour-Nation *ought* to be such, as effectually should stifle all Animosities among us; that our Constitution is carried at present to the highest Pitch of human Perfection, and that nothing but the most unjustifiable Caprice could incline *us* to that *Desire of Change* by which *we are now* so violently actuated. This, I think, includes the Substance of all that is said in the above-mentioned

Interval.

Interval; and bears this obvious Paraphrase,  
 “ that we *ought* to have, but have not, a great  
 “ *Veneration* for *England*, as *our common Parent* ;  
 “ and that, omitting this, we break through all  
 “ Rules of *natural Affection, Gratitude, Interest,*  
 “ *Duty, and Dependence* ;” “ that our Constitu-  
 “ tion, though so excellent, is odious to the rest-  
 “ less Spirits of this Island ; that we are become  
 “ turbulent ; and a *Faction* is *sprouting* and *bud-*  
 “ *ing* among us, whose Intentions are to destroy  
 “ its *exquisite Equilibrium* .”

The Justice of these Insinuations I leave to the public Decision, and the due Resentment against the Propagators of them, to the Breast of every honest Man in the Kingdom ; the Flame of conscious Integrity and Loyalty must kindle, in an Instant, at such insolent Misrepresentations. But this is not all ; we, who are Eye-witnesses, can easily see and refute the Falshood ; it is not therefore intended for *us* ; this babling Author does but echo the Cry of the Leaders of the Pack ; the grand Machine to be played upon our Happiness, is to confound the Interests of the Constitution with the Interests of the *Party* ; and, on opposing the latter, we are represented, on the other Side of the Water, as *disaffected Subjects* to our Sovereign, and *dangerous Rivals* to our *English Brethren*. Thus is private Ambition to be gratified under the Pretext of the public Good, all Opposers to be branded with the Epithet of *factious*, and the most dishonourable Odium to be thrown upon the general Principles of this loyal People : nay, so far down does this deep-laid Plan descend,

that a paltry, mercenary Judge of Assize shall catch the Cue, and, on his Return from Circuit, make a solemn Report of the *Disaffection* of a Set of Gentlemen of the most un sullied Fame, and extensive landed Properties in their Counties; Vouchers and Securities for good Behaviour, sufficient, one would imagine, to overthrow the Authority of the combined *Bench*.

But surely, we may, notwithstanding this, keep up our Spirits, and not fear any bad Effect from this detestable Manner of Proceeding, however enraged we may be against the Authors of it. Our King, his Ministers, and the People of *England*, will respect our *Actions* as the surest *Spokesmen* for our Principles, and will not fail to allow them all that Weight which we flatter ourselves they deserve. On a late important Juncture we manifested a Firmness to our present glorious Succession, *full as* inviolable as any to be found in the royal Dominions. A great Part of this was, *doubtless*, owing to the *Statesman* who govern'd us at that Time: But I question whether a political Casuist would not allow *some small* Portion of the Merit to the Disposition of the People, especially as there were some Commotions in our Neighbourhood, where there was a Multiplicity of Statesmen at the Helm. To add an undeniable and more recent Proof of our carrying our Loyalty and Affection even to a *Nicety*, look back to the exemplary Proceedings against an inconsiderable Individual, tempted by an ill-judged Zeal to treat our Governors and *English* Friends in Words that seemed to want their due Respect,

and



and let our Alacrity, in punishing this offensive Incaution, speak aloud in our Behalf.

In short, it is to be seen through all this Part of our Author, that he would have us, in every Instance, consider ourselves as *Englishmen*; we are to venerate the Hem of every Garment which comes fresh out of *English* Air, and assist in the Promotion of *every Scheme* proposed to us by such as bear a Commission signed there, on Penalty of being stigmatized with the Mark of DISAFFECTED; and what is all this for? “Why truly, says the Author, because, sooner or later, we all have issued from thence.”—Here, had he but Sense or Ingenuity to observe it, he has reconciled the whole Matter in his own Words; for though the Majority of us are descended from *English* Families, yet, I believe, few will be brought to think that it is of no consequence whether we have come *sooner* or *later* from thence; they, who fall under the last Predicament, have signalized themselves too much for us easily to forget the Distinction.

I cannot help repeating here a Circumstance, which, though low in itself, has Dignity enough to serve as an Illustration to our Author's Argument. An honest Fellow, of this Country, came to *London*, when I was there; I met him the Day he arrived, and made some Proffer of alleviating the solitary Uneasiness which Strangers usually feel in that Metropolis: *Let me alone, my Dear, says he, by my Soul, this is my own Country, FOR my Grandfather's First Wife was born in Cheapside.*

Thus,

Thus, my Lord, you have an *Irish* Tale for his more polished one of the Nobleman and his Lady; which is so applicable, edifying, and new, that it calls for our Acknowledgments to the Author, who, really, between antique Quotations, and genteel modern Anecdotes, so agreeably diversifies his Performance, that nothing can more strongly display the Union of the Scholar, and the pretty Gentleman.

In the Course of his expatiating on these Sentiments, it is not unpleasant to observe, how he slides into a Variety of Expressions, extremely *picturesque*, and glowing with the proper Colours of some Characters whom he, by no means, intends to display. Thus, in *Page* 5. “THEY  
 “ *must have very profligate Hearts, and very de-*  
 “ *vilish Tempers, who would endeavour to raise the*  
 “ *Devil here; nay, they must be weak as well as*  
 “ *wicked, &c. and if it be only the Pride of heading*  
 “ *a Party, to raise their Dignity by demonstrating*  
 “ *their Importance, the Result will probably disap-*  
 “ *point, &c.*” And in *P.* 10. “SUCH as possess  
 “ *large Shares of Wealth will be hot, tumultuous,*  
 “ *and unruly; they will not only be impatient of*  
 “ *Restraint, but grasp at Power, &c.*” “PRIDE  
 “ AND PRESUMPTION *indefeasibly grow out of*  
 “ *HASTY ADVANCEMENT, and the greatest Mor-*  
 “ *tification TO UPSTART PRIDE, IS TO SEE THOSE*  
 “ *OF LESS WEALTH IN HIGHER RANK, AND*  
 “ *MORE RESPECTED, &c.*” But above all, in the Beginning of the 14th Page, one would imagine his chief Patron was sitting for his Description, though it is evident, on the whole of the  
 Context,

Context, that it is a Scrap of that Scurrility vented every Day in Cabals against a Man who is an Honour to his Time, and to his Country. Many such involuntary Likenesses of his own Friends may be seen through this Author's Performance.

Much more may be said on this Part of the Pamphlet than is worth troubling you with; the Reader may see almost every Line abounding in Sentiments correspondent with those which I have already remarked.

But an extraordinary Stroke occurs in *P. 11.* He seems to retract a Concession he was on the Point of making, and will not allow *us* any Degree of Opulence, for that would admit of an Inference by no Means to his Wishes. However, to comfort us, he immediately after assures us, that our most sanguine Wishes would be answered, if a *Scheme, proposed about two Years ago, should take place*; and the only Fear the good-natured Gentleman has from this *glorious* Event is, that we shall grow too rich and too happy upon it, from whence may arise *Vanity*, and *Luxury*, and a *vicious, frantic, and profligate* Behaviour.

For my particular Part, though fifty Winters have so far reduced my Passions to the Authority of Reason, as to inspire me with a thorough Disgust and Contempt for the Folly of Vanity and Luxury, yet I would, with great Security of Mind, give my Consent to open the Sluice to all that Inundation of Wantonneis with which this Author fears our Country would be overwhelmed in Consequence of this Event. To be sure it is hard to say, how far the Affection of our Neighbours

bours may tempt them to force upon us a Proportion of Happiness that may taint our Morals, and turn our Heads. But, I think, one may, with some Degree of Probability, say, that they would act the *Physician* as well as the *Friend*, and that every *Plethora*, which might accrue, would be prevented, from doing much Mischief, by proper *Evacuations*. Thus should we, in my Opinion, be secured from waxing wanton and vicious; but should any Degree of Infection steal in among us, we might have our spiritual as well as *political Doctors* sent us, who, by their exemplary Lives, and excellent Endowments, would thoroughly exterminate every Kind of Immorality, and propagate the Interests of Virtue; the Specimens we are at present, and have been heretofore, blessed with, leave us no Room to doubt about their Conduct in this Particular.

I own I think it a little odd, that this worthy Author does not do us the Favour of dwelling a little upon this Subject; one would imagine that a *Catastrophe*, of this Nature, deserves a little Pains to recommend and make it palatable; for, whatever he may think, we, *of this Country*, cannot help thinking it a Change of too much Importance to be rashly agreed to; nay, I can tell him, that some of us have so much of the Stupidity of the Climate in our Brains, as not to see distinctly all these Advantages arising out of it to this Kingdom, which are so palpable to the Eyes of Politicians; and, what is more than all, some of these very Persons, whose Assent to the Affair may, *perhaps*, be deemed necessary, are positive enough

enough to think, that no human Assurances, no Compacts, though ever so solemn, no speculative Conclusions, though ever so artful and masterly, nothing under an immediate Voice from Heaven to injoin it, can, or will, be sufficient with them, or any Man of Sense or Principle, to run the dreadful Hazard of the Effect of such a Scheme. This may, possibly, be an Error in us, and we may be pitied, by clearer-sighted People, as blind to our own Happiness: But our national Bigotry to old Customs is well known, and I really fear this is one of the Instances in which our Natures are irreclaimable.

But what are we to conclude from his superficial Manner of speaking of this *intended* Change? Surely, he can't be weak enough to think us reconciled to it: It is, therefore, either because it will not stand the Test of a minute and candid Discussion; or, that he imagines it needless, as impossible, to make it palatable to our Reason; for that it is not *that*, but our Passions are to be influenced, in order to effect this Scheme; Corruption and Menaces are to be the Instruments to work with, and Ambition, Avarice, or Fear, the leading Qualities of every Man who joins in its Promotion.

I shall not now, unnecessarily, detain your Lordship's, or the Reader's, Time, by enlarging on the many unanswerable Objections to this destructive Revolution; such as, the small Security we should have in our Representative Body, reduced (at least) to one Third of its present Size, and transported, once a Year, to stand our Bulwark

in the midst of five hundred Persons, who, tho' extremely well disposed to the Welfare of this *useful* Island, may yet chance to differ, sometimes, in Opinion from the aforesaid tiny Corporation ; the *Possibility* that, out of these our Champions, one half, or more, may so far contract an *English* Taste, and fall in Love with some pretty Employments, as to forget poor *Ireland* in a good Measure ; more especially, as they might not have left many valuable Memorandums behind them ; the Convenience that some of the current Coin of this Kingdom would be of to these our *Residents* in *London* ; the Dilapidations that may accrue to Mansion-seats and Improvements, and Beggary to Tenants, by Means of their absent Owners ; the Addition to the Number of our, already too numerous, Absentees ; the Decay of our Metropolis in its Imports, Manufactures, Buildings, and Inhabitants ; the Care that would be taken to prevent us from outstripping our Neighbours, by levying a few superfluous Shillings in the Pound, among many other salutary Laws, which would prodigiously encourage the Cultivation of this Country, and forward our present thriving Situation, and against' which we could never murmur, as having given *our own Consent*. — All these, and numberless other Considerations, that must strike the Attention of every Person interested in the Fate of this Nation, I shall forbear to dwell upon at present, and refer the curious Reader for a more particular Investigation of the Mischiefs that must arise to us, from this Event, to two Pamphlets, published about two or three Years

ago.

ago, in which he will find the principal Arguments, on both Sides, set in Contrast to each other, and will see, in the strongest Light, the Superiority of the Negative.

It is an old Observation, my Lord, that there is no Tenet in Philosophy so absurd, but has had its Advocates; the same may be certainly said of Politics; Vanity and Singularity are, generally, the Sources of the first, and may have their Share in the second; but, I believe, there is an Ingredient in the latter, which seldom enters the Composition of the former, and that is Self-Interest. The Philosopher is little the better whether a Planet be in *Conjunction* or not, though the Party-Writer may receive some Emolument from the *Union-Scheme*; the Speculator will never be the richer for shewing that this Globe of ours moves in a Circle or an Ellipse, but the Politician may find his Account in driving *us* into *Excentricity* out of that *proper* and *distinct Orbit* in which our Creator has placed us, and in which we have revolved, with small Variation, from the Beginning. This Hint every Reader, and Hearer, of new-fangled political Systems, should bear in his Memory, and use his Caution accordingly, more especially at this Time, when a temporary Power of *distributing* makes it the *Interest* of many to recommend a Scheme, which a small Share of Penetration must demonstrate to be the most monstrous, detestable, and pernicious, that ever was formed against the Happiness of a Kingdom.

But I am growing more prolix than I intended; so hard it is to controul a Course of Thought on

an interesting Subject, be the promoting Cause ever so mean and frivolous.

The Interval, from the 14th to the 17th Page inclusive, is a Jargon of the thickest-laid Falshoods that were ever obtruded on the Public, as, indeed, it must necessarily be, when the Design was to vindicate the most iniquitous Plan of Proceedings that was ever concerted against the Repose of a deserving People. The many Untruths and Contradictions; that every Line contains, I shall leave to the Animadversion of every Reader who knows any Thing of the Transactions of last Session; one or two, only, I cannot refrain from speaking to. The first is, the strange Metamorphosis he speaks of, where “ *the staunch good Courtiers,*” “ *as if touched by some magic Wand, at once be-*” “ *came Patriots; and many, who had formerly passed*” “ *for staunch Patriots, were said to turn Courtiers.*” — Now, the Truth of that Matter is, that *those*, who then became (as he says) Patriots from Courtiers, in Fact underwent no Change, at all, but in the *Manner* of exerting their former constant Principles; they were always *Patriots* in the true Sense of the Word; they shewed an equal Attachment to both Parts of the Constitution, in order to keep the Ballance poised, and thereby preserve the Good of the whole; they kept up the Dignity of the Crown, because it was necessary to the Support and Happiness of the People. On the other Hand, these splenetic Opposers, who (as our Author says) *had formerly passed for staunch Patriots*, either from Envy or personal Pique to the Head of the other Interest, or the  
 Hopes



Hopes of having their mighty Eloquence and Importance bought over by warm Employments ; these Gentry, to their immortal Honour, these PATRIOTS, united all their Force with that Association, whose every Scheme tended, in the most dangerous Degree, to the Ruin of the Country. The *first* acted consistently with their Conduct of many Years before ; they *were* and *are* the Guardian-Angels of that political Equipoise, on which our Felicity depends ; and, as such, flew off at the Appearance of *Ambition* incroaching under the Mask of *Authority*.

How conformable the Conduct of the other Side, on this Occasion, was, to their former Declarations, is most contemptibly apparent. Good Heaven ! what a Sight ! to see the HONEST MAN, the *inflexible Prince of Patriots*, standing single in the Negative to every Resolution that passed a Censure on a *dishonest Servant of the Public*, and, through him, on his Supporters, who made the Protection of a Miscreant the Trial of their Abilities, which were next to be turned upon the Vitals of the Country ! How low is he fallen ! How irretrievably lost in every Opinion !

But, to do Justice to his Masters, he has got his Reward, and so have others of the same Class ; so that, though inconsistent with their Appellation, they have exactly pursued their Intentions, which, doubtless, long have been to watch a divided Channel of Power, and throw themselves into *that*, whose Waters may raise them on the Surface, though their Country should perish in the Deluge ; by this they have the double Enjoyment

ment of opposing the Interest they inveterately hate, and receiving those Emoluments from one Side, which their Want of Principle, and Want of Consequence, have long since shut the Door against from the other.

You remember, my Lord, *Shakespear's* Image of the Fluctuation of human Matters, *the Tide in the Affairs of Men, which taken at the Flood leads on to Fortune ; omitted, all the Voyage of their Lives is bound in Shallows.* — To this Tide have our *Patriots* committed themselves ; and, I fancy, a political Philosopher will think they are now at High-Water.

But for ever be remembered, for ever honoured, the Names of the illustrious Few, who, though formerly hurried, by their Friendships and Connexions, into a Path distinct from our Country's Friends, now generously relinquished every inferior Gratification, and buried every private Animosity in Oblivion ! Their COUNTRY called, and spread its inviting Banner, to which, with Alacrity, they repaired, and, by their inviolable Firmness, shared the Glory of IT'S Victory.

The String of Interrogatories, so impudently produced in the 17th Page, are, really, very unparalleled ; there is not a single one of them to which an Answer, directly contrary to the Wish of the Questioner, may not be, with the greatest Truth, returned ; I shall, therefore, take my Leave of them, and proceed to the grand Design of his Work which next appears, only observing the great Modesty and Reasonableness of our Author, in deciding so material a Matter by his  
single

single Authority, as he does toward the End of this Page.

Give Ear, ye Nations, let *England, Ireland,* and *Italy* rejoice at the Sound of the Praise, and Enumeration of the VIRTUES, of our Metropolitan! An arduous Talk! — But our Author takes the easiest, and, indeed, the only, Method, of performing it; he invents, and asserts, them. Conscious of his own Dependence on him, he takes more than ordinary Pains to blind us into a Belief of his Impartiality, confesses, that *what comes from a Man, tied fast to a Party, must pass for nothing*, and blunders at the Author of *Roger*, rather than omit a Stroke at a Pamphlet, which is never to be forgiven by the Proprietors of the Characters it so humourously, and justly, exposes.

To represent the Man, who is in this Kingdom the best intitled to the first Honours, and greatest Confidence, both of his Sovereign and every Vice-Roy, as discontented *only* on Account of the Preference shewn to another, and every Odium thrown upon the last as taking its Rise entirely from this Source, is an Insinuation as ridiculous as false. It is, indeed, very true, that a Deficiency of *proper Qualifications* prevented the first from being joined in *the Cabal*, and changed that Deference, which was his Due, into an insolent and inveterate Opposition. We will allow that he has, all his Life; wanted Passions and Principles adapted to the *managing* Junto, and he is, at the same Time, so happy as to want every Wish of enjoying what he is thus, by Nature, unqualified for; but to rest the numberless Imputations  
thrown,

thrown, from *every Quarter*, upon the other, on this chimerical Foundation, no Person will consent to, when *Vouchers*, and *Facts*, offer every Day to support them.

I shall not, however, unnecessarily task myself to develope the Injustice of the Eulogiums which our Author has here so plentifully bestowed on his Patron; they are, indeed, no more to the promised Intent of his Book, than a Catalogue of the Virtues of an Hero of Antiquity; for though the Head of our Church were indued with every Excellence of *St. Peter* in his private Capacity, few Persons would therefore rest their political Belief on his Infallibility, and follow him blindfold into destructive Measures, though his Sanctity were infinitely more rigid than even his own Writer adventures to describe it.

I shall, therefore, only desire the Reader to observe, whether he does not see this *Artificer* of Virtues chuckle at his Arrival in his well-known Province of Adulation, and revel there at large: With what a prodigious Shew of Impartiality he conducts the whole; and how particularly eminent this appears in two of his Assertions; one, that the blackest Crime alleged is *impossible* to be true; the other, that none of these Aspersions were thrown till within these three Years. A competent Knowledge of human Nature will sufficiently answer the first, and every Person's Memory the latter.

The subsequent Story is of the same Connexion with the Title Page as the precedent Encomiums; but he has descanted on it in such a Manner, that I must beg Leave to speak a few Words to it.

That

That the Offer, there mentioned, was made to that Nobleman, all, that I have met with, rest thoroughly convinced of; that on being made public, it was flatly and peremptorily *denied* by the worthy *Source* of the Proposal, is also, in the highest Degree, credible, and as universally allowed to be no Argument against the *Fact*; it is, indeed, most exactly of a Piece with many other Procedures of the same Person. And, that the Offer was *TANTI* will, I believe, be as little controverted. Were the Acquisition of a Person of his Rank and Property (whose very Appearance, in Favour of a Cause, must throw more Lustre and Credit upon it, than the whole Bench of Bishops) of no more Value than this Author pleases to represent it, yet even *one, two, or three* Voices would be worth a *Promise* to the desperate Party; and how much more than a Promise would be paid for any such Services, when the Scale was once turned, may be judged from the distinguishable Honour and Honesty of the Promiser, and other Leaders of that Side of the Question. Supposing, therefore, all the Disparity that is insinuated between the Offer and the Value to be received for it; yet, to every one who is acquainted with the Character and Conduct of the Bidders (and the lowest of the People, they *would govern*, consider them in their proper Light) it will never affect the Probability of the Fact, but only demonstrate the wretched Despondency they were then labouring under, offering exorbitant Interest for ready Money, like Bankers on the Point of failing. But, that the Person *attempted*

is, and will be, of more Weight and Significance, in the political Ballance, than a *Feather*, or a *Grain of Sand*, we will submit to the Determination of the Event, when every Friend of *Ireland* shall, with Joy, behold it preponderate on the usual Side ; Ambition, Avarice, Corruption, and Vice of every Kind, will then *fly up and kick the Beam*, and there suspend aloft most eminently ridiculous to the most inconsiderable Spectators.

The Author's Art, in this Place, is really pleasant enough ; he would invalidate the Charge by telling us, " that this Proposal was made to the " Nobleman *at second-hand*, and to that *second* by a " *third* ; this, says he, must take away all Authority from the Story ; nor could one of *his Experience and acknowledged Abilities* be so indiscreet in conducting such a Scheme." We will, indeed, allow his Patron to have some Experience and Abilities in *bugger-mugger*, *private* Matters, though destitute of every Quality requisite for public Administration ; good Sense, and Cunning, are not only distinct, but rather incompatible, and he must be dreadfully unfurnished with the latter, who would, in Person, make so criminal an Offer to one whose Integrity would flame at the Mention, and prompt him not only to expose, but instantly chastise, in proper Terms, the insolent Proposer. It is true, indeed, that even in this Case an *easy* Recourse could have been had to *the old Expedient* ; the whole Proceeding could have been *flatly and peremptorily denied*, but not to much Purpose ; for, I believe, few will think, with our Author, that *neither* of the Parties could be capable

ble of a direct Lie ; so that the black Overture would, in such a Case, have been instantly and directly fixed on the prime Source of it. All this was foreseen, and Emissaries, therefore, employed to employ others to make the Proposal to the Person aimed at ; by passing thus through a Multiplicity of Hands, it became easy, at any Time, to deny, and retract, and throw a Mist, as they imagined, around the whole Affair, in Case of a Refusal. But I cannot help thinking it was a little shallow ; for the Method of Proceeding was so extremely *like* and *natural*, that it throws the highest Lustre of Credibility on the Story, against which the Author produces it as a formidable Argument.

If it were as true, that the mitred Invader of our Peace *is as much above every sordid Art of Corruption, and has too much Virtue of his own to traffick for the public or private Virtue of another*, as that the Nobleman, before-mentioned, *scorns every Temptation to Venality*, and exerts a Spirit that will make him honoured and beloved by Posterity, our Church and State would not be infested and dishonoured as they now are by the Possessor of the first Dignities in both.

The additional Motive urged, at the same Time, to gain this noble Profelyte, our Author treats as incredible from its Absurdity ; and the Absurdity, according to him, consists in these two Particulars ; 1<sup>st</sup>. “ That a Man must divest  
“ himself of *all Probity* before he could bring him-  
“ self to think of such an Expedient.” 2. “ That  
“ it was what he, nor no Man upon Earth, could

“ undertake for, nor, with all the Power of the  
 “ Crown centered in himself, could make good.”  
 The first we will readily grant as an undeniable  
 Proposition, but, by no Means, as an Argument;  
 the second we must as readily deny, and, for its  
 Falsity, refer every Reader to a short Reflection  
 on the Nature of our Constitution, by which, as  
 well as by a little Experience, he will plainly see  
 the Connection between those who have the  
 Power of appointing, and Sheriffs, or other re-  
 turning Officers, Juries, and Judges; these last  
 particularly are well known to have much Influ-  
 ence even on Trials, where they are properly no  
 more than Explainers and Pronouncers of the  
 Law, (to the Shame of *those* who are the *only*, the  
*true*, and *independent* Judges of our Properties) not  
 to mention the many Circumstances in which we  
 have no Assistance from our *Peers*, but depend  
 solely for our Happiness on *judicial* Decisions. In  
 short, let the Superintendency of a Parliament  
 be once taken off, by securing a *devoted* Majority  
*there*, and place the *well-matched* Cabal at the  
 Helm, and not only the Nobleman in Question,  
 but every Man of Property in the Nation, shall  
 acknowledge, from bitter Experience, the *Possibility*  
 of our Properties being affected by a Change  
 of Administration.

As to the Subject of our Author's Panegyric,  
 being *neither Knave or Fool* — Were we not con-  
 cerned in the Effects of his Qualities, he is in-  
 trinsically too mean to detain us a Moment by  
 the Discussion of them: But since he *is* sent us as  
 a *temporary* Scourge for our Sins, I will take the  
 Pains



Pains to say, that, as to the first, he shall be allowed this fair and *applicable* Trial ; he shall stand or fall by the Test on which *Abraham* rests the Salvation of *SODOM* ; if there be found one candid Heart in one hundred that will acquit him, the charitable Side shall prevail, and, for the Sake of that one, the World will acquit him also.

As to his being a Fool. — Besides that Share of Folly which always accompanies the former Part of his Character, I fancy his political Measures will never much redound to the Honour of his Wisdom, take the Argument which Way you will, either from the *Means*, or the *Event*.

His Advocate next proceeds (in *P. 27.*) to enumerate a pretty round Catalogue of *slighter* Articles exhibited against his Client by the Public ; *slighter*, indeed, they are, tho' they would make a Figure any where else. But I shall not fatigue myself with following him through all the Articles of his Expurgation. The Display of the Inside of the House in particular makes me sick. Nor shall I refute the Defence made for the Neglect of his Diocese ; if he would but abstain from his *Commissions*, we would readily pardon his *Omissions* ; there are many Precedents for the latter, but very few for the former ; not above two or three upon our Records. Nor shall I now be so needlessly severe on the rest of our mitred Peers as to say, that their *unnatural* Situation in the Legislature has been the Cause of more Commotions, than any other one Defect in our Constitution. What avails it to murmur ? (as our Author justly insinuates.) Is it not better to wait, in silent Patience,

for

for that happy *Æra*, which our good Creator has certainly fixed for our Delivery from Enchantment and Infatuation ?

As to his Associates and Diversions, his Council here does not seem to plead against the *Facts*, but demurs to the *Crime* ; and, according to Custom, puts us a Set of Questions, at the End of the 30th Page, almost every one of which may be answered to the Prejudice of the Accused. The last Article of the Charge is, I confess, with me no Crime at all ; I have been so miserably pestered with black Gowns at Levees, that I would heartily join in their Extirpation.

Pages 32, and 33, contain some admirable abstracted Observations, ornamented with a Quotation from the venerable *Æschylus*, and an unanswerable one from the polite *Tacitus*. Much may be said, however, on the Word *Præceps*.

But we are now arrived, my Lord, at the only material Question in the Book ; *Is he the Friend of our Country, and well affected to our Interest ?* Our Author makes short Work of the Proof of the Affirmative, and that in so satisfactory a Manner, that every Reader must, after the Perusal, rest convinced, that *he* has no Attachment, can have none, *elsewhere* ; that his Income must suffer sooner, and more sorely, by any additional Grievances that may affect this Nation, than the perpetual, landed Interests ; that he is, by no means, a *Creature*, but great and independent *ab initio*, and, consequently, no fit Tool, or Instrument, for an *Occasion* ; that were the Nation to suffer Shipwreck, no Care *could*, or *would*, be taken

taken to preserve his Revenue and Grandeur ; that his Cares and Schemes are, by no means, confined to his own Life, but that, with a pious Solicitude, he looks forward, and consults the Happiness of After-Ages ; that his Inclinations and Connections are such as must necessarily induce him to promote Peace and Harmony among us, as he is, at this Instant, doing ; that *no possible Change can happen in which he could be greater, or even so great as he is*, as plainly appears by his not being in that State of miserable Restlessness, which must torment a Man, of his laudable Ambition, if he had a *Superior* in Friends, Interest, or Deserts ; in short, there can be no Doubt but every honest and intelligent Reader, from these Arguments, and a Retrospection on his Conduct, Schemes, and Associates, must resolve to conspire his best Wishes in Favour of this Person who is so closely interested in the Fate of US ALL ; who, as our spiritual Father, must be supposed to bless and pray for the People of his Predecessor St. *Patrick*, and who has so many Motives to stand our Friend, superior to them which actuate the other Person, whom we have, for several Years, so ridiculously doated on and admired.

But I should ask Pardon, my Lord, for growing ludicrous. The Subject does not, indeed, permit it, tho' the Author's Arguments do. It is true, no better could be had ; but it was quite Fool-hardy to produce them.

Upon the Whole, my Lord, you have *heard his Defence*, and whether the Author is a *bad Advocate*, or his Patron *innocent and faultless*, you,  
and

and every other Person in the World, will, indeed, most palpably perceive.

I beg your Lordship to observe what noble Productions result from a muddy, undistinguishing, Understanding, agitated by a Virulence of Heart; how a stupid Vehemence hurries a Writer into Arguments, Expressions, and Discoveries, that expose to Ridicule and Abhorrence those very Characters in whose Behalf his Passion prompted him to take the Pen. This Book would certainly never have appeared, had he consulted any commonly-rational Friend, or even any of the Heroes of his Tale, before he committed it to the Press; I own, were I in their Situation, I would confine this reverend *Furioso*, and debar him the Use of Ink and Paper, until the Purposes of the Party were effected; then, indeed, he may be let loose, for tho' he would spoil any Cause he espoused, while Matters were in Suspence, yet, when the Nation was once *secured*, he would do admirably well to insult and worry; then Calumny, Scurrility, and Insolence, would have unlimited Indulgence, and who would presume to answer or resent? But, as Matters now stand, this mad Ecclesiastic must do infinite Mischief; and, I believe, they perceive this so far already, that we shall not find the Public insulted by any more Productions of the same Hand.

But I shall say no more on this Head; every honest Mind must conceive an adequate Odium against this Performance of our Author, and I would not be thought to carry even the justest Resentment too far. Tho' he has failed with the  
Public.

Public, yet his Friends may, probably, forgive him for the Sake of his Intention; he will be allowed some Merit as the first, tho' unsuccessful, Writer for the Party, and God may forgive him, and *Aaron* reward him.

Again, my Lord, I must ask Forgiveness for digressing; you know it is my Way, even on Paper. I was led into it by the Incoherency and Obscurity of this Writer's Ideas, of which a fresh Instance presented itself in the next Paragraph; I mean that in which he attempts to convey a true Notion of Patriotism. The Beginning of his Observation, on this Head, is not Sense. Yet his Meaning, on the whole, is plainly this, that real Patriotism consists more in complying sometimes with the Demands of our Governors, than in a rigid Perseverance to the exact Liberties of the People; the Tendency of this is pretty easily seen. Then, says he, " We should sometimes *humour* " them in their *Demands*, tho' they should fall " short of, or go beyond, what, in Strictness, " we may have a *Right* to expect." And though, in one or two Places, he hits on a just Thought, yet this is apparently his Aim. Every one knows the first Step taken for the Introduction of every Vice, is to ridicule the Inflexibility and rigid Scrupulousness of Virtue.

This political Maxim will never, I believe, stand the Test either of Experience or Reason; As to the first, History will evince, that the *Magistrate* never desired to be *humoured* but with a bad Design, and was never indulged in it without dismal Consequences; and as to Reason, that, I believe,

believe, will never be satisfied that the People should ever abridge their *Rights* by the Size of a Grain of Sand to *humour* any Person who is employed, and intrusted, *for no other Purpose*, but the exact and nice Preservation of even the smallest of these very Rights. Tho' this *Indulgence* should never go farther than a certain Limit, yet it is *so far* a *Wrong*, and the Assertion of its Propriety as much a *Falsbood*, as if it were to be ever so extensive; it is not, therefore, by any Means, to be received among a free People, even in the most restrained Sense.— But what End can be put to this Argument? May it not be used to purloin from us, every Liberty, every Blessing, we enjoy, by insensible Degrees; if the Desires of the Governor are to be the *Modus* of the People's Compliance, what an unbounded Field shall we have for *Civility*!

Here, my Lord, are *Manwaring*, *Montague*, and *Sibthorp* again for us; these are the identical Doctrines that were propagated through *England* to pay Homage to the infernal *Laud* at the Expence of the Nation's Peace and Welfare. *Respect*, *Compliance*, and *dutiful Acquiescence*, are Dresses worn above these hundred Years by *Fear*, *Servility*, and *Dispiritedness*, three Gentry who are always in waiting to conduct us to the Temple of *spiritual* and *civil Slavery*. But we have profited little by our Annals, if we commit our Happiness to the Care of any political *Undertakers* either in Black or Red.

Thanks be to God, we are blessed with a Sovereign, who, thro' the whole Course of his  
Reign,

Reign, has rather shewn a paternal Willingness to humour his People, than the least Inclination to do any Thing that would require an *Indulgence* from them, whatever his Servants may do. He does, he must, affectionately love *us*; for we have shewn, to a Demonstration, that we love *him*, and his Nature is too generous not to be grateful. HE, therefore, can never be displeased that we should deny such *Favours* to a Deputy, as *he* could not bring himself to ask, nor even desire. Let our *Adversaries* pretend what they may, our Loyalty to HIM will never be questioned by our Steadiness in refusing. Our Monarch glories in ruling a FREE People, and *we*, as Part of that People, cannot yield a Particle of our Privileges, without derogating by so much from *his* Dignity.

Having effectually persuaded us, that it is our Duty, as good Patriots, to be very *good*, and *complying*, and *civil*, and *complaisant*, to our *Superiors*, he inforces it by assuring us it will be *safer*, as well as more *reputable*; to do so; here is a little *Coax*, and a little *Threat*, for us, and, to treat us like compleat Children, he tells us, that if we will be *good Boys*, *this once*, and not make a *Noise* to disturb *Business*, we shall have full Liberty of speaking, and acting, our Fill any *other Time*; the Interest of our Country (he tells us) is not *now* at Stake; let us sit down secure until *they tell us* it is, and then — we may *exert our Zeal* — like a new-catched Bird in a Cage.

But, my Lord, my Eye is caught by a very alluring Paragraph, at the End of the 37th Page, to which I must, therefore, hasten; for it is, in-

deed, a *Coup de Grace*. He introduces it, by putting a Question (which *really* occurs to every Man in the Kingdom) into the Mouth of a *bot-headed* 'Squire, and then censuring it as a Specimen of the *Unpoliteness* of the Party. This Gentleman, whose Politeness and Humanity are so strongly display'd in every Line of his Performance, is so nice, as to be terribly offended at the Coarseness of this Expression. But, I believe, some will be brought to think with me, that this Interrogatory is put in the strongest Terms that Conciseness will admit of, and that in the two Words, *Parson* and *Dragoon*, is implied the whole Force of that Argument which Thousands of honest Hearts are, at this Moment, replete with; in this Sense are they to be taken, and not as indecent or scurrilous Appellations. *Parson* and *Dragoon* are useful, proper, and unblameable, acting in their Spheres, at a Visitation, or Review; but to assume the Direction of a Kingdom, abounding with their Superiors in Family, Fortune, and real Consequence, can never be reconciled to common Reason, and common Spirit; to remind them of their *proper Occupations* becomes then the only Method of pointing out the Impropriety of their insolent Ambition.

But this was to be passed over by the Author; his Intent was sufficiently answered, if an Odium could any Way be thrown on the 'Squires, a Set of Men very obnoxious to him and his Patrons, and a formidable Obstruction to their Measures. You see he allows, in this Place, that, by *such*,  
the



the *Opposition* is conducted; for which Truth we thank him, and glory in the Concession.

But we must speak of these *our Governors* in *fair Words* and *civil Language*; nay, however they may remind us of their original and proper Callings by their Conduct, yet Memory and Reason must be stifled, and, act as they may, they must be respected; one, as *his Majesty's Minister*, (he gives no other Reason) and the other for his *Birth, Fortune, and Qualities*; besides, he read Logic in *our University*; an eternal Honour to that Seat of Learning; for this Logic he now displays in his *energetic Orations* for the Good of this Kingdom, which (our Author says) he, upon all Occasions, endeavours his utmost to promote. In short, he *has promoted several of our Countrymen to high Stations*, and now humbly begs Leave to have universal Power, in order to continue his Benevolence to the *Irish Nation*, and serve them in the Lump, whom, before, he could only serve by Individuals.

But the best is to come. — “Why not,” says our Author, “why should we not be governed by a Parson and a Dragoon, if the King pleases to delegate to them his Power?” — Why really, good Sir, I believe they take Care already to be properly respected, and obeyed, in those several Provinces to which the King has appointed them; nor have I heard any Murmurs against the *public Authority* with which one of them is honoured; so far, I allow, your Question extremely pertinent, and when the King *can bring himself* to indulge the earnest Desire which the other has  
for

for the like Dignity, we shall, I doubt not, *universally* respect him *as such*; even tho' there should be another displaced to make Room for him, who, we may imagine, has the best, and almost an indelible, Right to it. It is possible, indeed, we may be some what uneasy at the Exchange, (much more so, I promise you, than himself, excepting his Concern for the Public :) we should think too, perhaps, that our Nation may suffer *some* Decay in such Hands. — But, I am persuaded, the leading Men of the Country would wait for a *direct* Attempt on our Laws, before they would testify the least Want of Respect to those to whom *the King would think fit to delegate his Power*.

But what is all this to the Purpose? Does it follow, because they bear the King's Appointments, as to particular Exertions of Authority, that therefore every Thing they propose must meet with implicit Veneration and Obedience? Must every Man, howsoever great and respected in his Country, truckle to two Bashaws, whose *Commissions* authorize them only to bluster at the Head of a Regiment, and swagger in a Consistory? Must every national Scheme be regulated by their *Fiat*, and even the Legislature prostituted to their Pleasure? Or, rather, do they not, in the highest Degree, insult their Sovereign, who has exalted them, by using his Delegation as a Sanction for such Purposes, as, did he fully know their Nature and Tendency, his own honest Heart must abhor.

But, in the next Breath, our Author produces another Paradox; “*The Military*,” says he,  
“ and

“ *and Ecclesiastical deserve Attention as much as*  
 “ *any other Part of our Establishment, and such as*  
 “ *are supposed to understand them best are undoubtedly*  
 “ *fittest to preside in them;*” [his Inference is obviously this, tho’ not expressed] *Ergo*, they are the fittest to preside over the whole Nation. The first Part of this Argument I shall leave to the Reader’s Contemplation, with this Hint, that if the Military and Ecclesiastical now deserve *Attention, as much as any other Part* of our Constitution, we may be assured that, in a little Time, they will be the *only* Parts to be considered, if the *others* do not take proper Care of themselves. — But I wonder my Author should have forgot his Syllogisms; they could have helped him to put this Argument into a prettier Method; as thus;

Men are compounded of a Soul and Body,

Now, the Parson preserves the first, and the Dragoon the second;

*Ergo*, the Parson and Dragoon have the whole Man under their Preservation. And then, from this Conclusion, by an undeniable Enthymeme, he might have inferred, that the Parson and Dragoon are the fittest Men in the World to preside at the Helm, and govern all the Rest of Mankind.

“ But hold,” says he, “ pray not so fast, *Parsons and Dragoons are to the full as fit for Ministers of State, as Graziers or Fox-hunters, especially if suitable Parts and Education have recommended them to that Distinction. It cannot surely be a Question which is fittest for the Post, he that was bred at Court, and early formed in the best*

“ *School*

“ *School of Politicks and good Manners, where the*  
 “ *various Dispositions and Tempers of Men are only*  
 “ *to be learned, and how to be applied, and*  
 “ *managed, to the Advantage of the Publick; or he*  
 “ *that has been trained among Dogs and Horses,*  
 “ *Bullocks and Sheep, where a Man is likelier to*  
 “ *lose the little Good that Nature had put into him,*  
 “ *than to improve it, and can learn little more than*  
 “ *how to make his Neighbour first drunk, and then*  
 “ *bite him in a Bargain; and if he ever emerges and*  
 “ *steps into higher Life, is sure to bring with him*  
 “ *that Awkwardness and Bluntness, which, though*  
 “ *passing among the Vulgar for Marks of Honesty,*  
 “ *are in that State of no other Use than to make him*  
 “ *ridiculous.*”

This is one of the many Places where our Author's Passion has blinded his Caution, and for which, I dare say, he has *borne a Bang* from his Masters; they never commissioned him to retail to the Public what was said, in Confidence and Warmth, at their Tables and other Meetings. It is also one of these Passages which puzzled me, as to his real Intention, before I became more minutely acquainted with his Manner.

I shall do no more, after having thus recited it *verbatim*, than leave it, as the genuine Sense of the Cabal against this Kingdom's Peace, to the Consideration of every Gentleman of Fortune therein, and of every other Person who esteems our landed Interest, and has even an ordinary Share of Penetration, which will be sufficient clearly to point out to him the innumerable Miseries which a Party, actuated by such Sentiments,

must

must, in Consequence of Success, inevitably, and irretrievably, bring upon our Nation. We must, indeed, be in our Understandings, (as we shall certainly, and deserve to be, in wretched Servitude) lower than the most abject of the Brutes he has levelled us with, if we do not take the *Hint*, and repel these Invaders of our Happiness with a Spirit suitable to our own Importance, and their Demerits.

Tho' this last Passage carries a general Appearance, it is easily seen, that a View is particularly had, thro' the whole, toward him who is the beloved, and well-tryed, Head of that Set of Men, against whom this Piece of Scurrility is levelled; and he, whose true Dignity, and unaffected Ease in his public Character, and unsullied Integrity in every Path of Life, his keenest Enemies have long confessed, is here represented, by a mercenary Scrib-ler, as an awkward Clown, scarce a Degree above a Brute, and *getting drunk with his Neighbour in Order to bite him in a Bargain*.

His noble Correspondent, being curious in vegetable Nature, is next presented, by our Author, with a Simile, that made me laugh heartily when I first perused this Book; and, tho' thus ridiculous, it carries black Virulence and Gall in every Word. This Malignity, couched under a dispassionate Appearance, inclined me much, for a Time, to ascribe the whole Performance to the reverend Mountebank I pointed at in the Beginning of my Letter. You know the Man, my Lord, and his Kind of *Wit*; you will not, therefore, I fancy, esteem this Allusion below his Dignity; if you should, you have but to picture

to yourself the Shrug, the grotesque Look, the Turn of Voice, and all them other Recommendations of his Humour, which I have seen you stare at, while others laughed; picture these to your Fancy, and you will find the Thought full worthy of him. I think you may see in it the Spite that naturally arises from Detection and Disgrace. I may be mistaken, but I shrewdly suspect him. This Passage is extremely *like*, and the whole Book displays Judgment enough to be his. You know how much of the latter appeared, whenever he ventured to digress from the Province that characterised him.

Had the Author of this Metaphor considered his youthful Hero merely as a *Vegetable*, (and as such only can any Excellence be found, or, indeed, any Character be given of him) we might have allowed the Justice of it; but it can never be applied to him as a *Man*. I will, therefore, beg Leave to help him to a Kind of Rhapsody in its Stead, every Image whereof will be universally allowed to be taken from Nature, and is full as poetical as his own.

“ *Behold*, and admire, the Appearance of that  
 “ flourishing Tree, which hath risen to the most  
 “ noble Maturity, and stands, as it long hath  
 “ stood, the Glory of the Forest! whose salutary  
 “ Influence hath nourished and refreshed the am-  
 “ bient Soil! under whose delightful Umbrage  
 “ all is verdant, all is healthful; which hath  
 “ protected the thriving tender Herbage from  
 “ the *envious eastern* Blast, tho’ attacked, thro’ a  
 “ Course of Years, by all the united Force of  
 “ the Elements from without, and by the Per-  
 “ fidy

“ fidy of thofe Inſects from within, ſprung into  
 “ Exiſtence under the genial Warmth of its  
 “ Shade, and, when raiſed from their *Aurelia*  
 “ State, turned their ungrateful, tho’ feeble,  
 “ Efforts on the Leaves that gave them Being;  
 “ behold it ſtill flouriſhing in a green old Age!  
 “ its Honours freſh upon its tow’ring Head! its  
 “ vigorous Root confirmed by all the Attempts  
 “ to ſhake it, while its luxuriant Branches are  
 “ the ſure unfailing Protection of all that vegetate  
 “ around !”

“ See now the Contraſt. — Behold in its Neigh-  
 “ bourhood yon ſtarveling Twig! a wretched  
 “ Off-ſhoot from a rotten Trunk! unendowed by  
 “ Nature with *Stamina* capable of Maturity, and  
 “ inclined to wither before it blooms! Behold!  
 “ all ſtarved and blaſted that falls under its  
 “ noxious, tho’ confined, Influence! while Ca-  
 “ terpillars, driven from the other’s Shade,  
 “ hang in Cluſters on its bending Head, and  
 “ prey upon its Vitals !”

He next proceeds to inform us of what the Pub-  
 lic Ear has long been peſtered with, the *well-*  
*judged* Compliments paid by ſeveral Boroughs to  
 the *distinguished Merit* of their *Patrons and Friends*;  
 we are, indeed, quite ſick of this Din; our News-  
 Papers are gorged and ſurfeited with *Puffs* and  
*Repetitions*. And, indeed, conſidering the Num-  
 bers, the Capacities, and Principles of theſe  
 complimenting Corporations, it is no Wonder  
 their Friends and Patrons ſhould be ſo prodigiouſly  
 elated; ſurely ſuch Unanimity of Applauſe muſt  
 be the ſweeteſt Muſic to theſe *honest Ears*, and

can be deemed no less than the *Vox Populi*, the universal Cry in their Favour !

But pray, my Lord, observe the Repetition of that old last Shift of the losing Side, which our Author has, more than once, endeavoured to play upon us ; I mean, the representing the Party he hates as irretrievably plunged in the Torrent of adverse Fortune, and inculcating the *Prudence* of not striving against the Stream. This must be, to every Reader, a Specimen of this Author's great Abilities, and, in Conjunction with the dispiriting Sarcasms in the same Paragraph, and that elegant Morfel of ancient and modern History annexed, cannot fail to strike the Gentleman they are aimed at, and his Friends, with the deepest Despair ; perhaps to such a Degree, as to induce him not to wait for the threatened *Tumble*, but voluntarily to resign his Place to the illustrious *third Person* who leans on the *first Person*.—How powerful is Learning in enforcing political Measures ! How irresistible are Quotations for perswading Men out of *common Sense* !

The *growing Hopes* of this admirable *third Person* are, doubtless, a strong Temptation to assist him in his Design ; For tho' *there is no undertaking positively for another, nor can any one promise how he may carry himself when he has climbed the last Step of the political Ladder*, yet even his present *promising Appearances* are full sufficient to make us quit, in his Behalf, a Man, of whose unexceptionable Conduct there are, indeed, no *growing Hopes*, for they have long since been lost and sunk — in Conviction. Besides HE really has some of the *true*

*old*



*old Milesian Blood* in him, an irrefragable Objection against him in the Breast of every *Irish-man*. Nay, were he fit, in every other Instance, to remain in his *old Place*, yet two Defects there are in him which must, for ever, render him odious and contemptible ; one is, his Name, which is so shockingly disagreeable in its Sound, that it has always been a Bar against Honour, Trust, and Preferment, to those who have been possessed of the same unhappy Circumstance. The other is, his Accent, which is so excessive *drauling*, and *provincial*, that it absolutely makes him unqualified to *speak* for a Body of Men, to every Individual of whom he is so prodigiously inferior in this Particular. If these Reasons are not thought sufficient for excluding him, the Reader may see many more, full as just and weighty, in the same Page (42.) nicely delineated, and beautified, with another Quotation at Bottom, very applicable, and entirely new.

The *other*, says our Author, has no Faults of this Nature ; *him* we see *just as he is* ; and as such, indeed, he is a most desirable Creature for the Place he aims at ; he is *Aaron's golden Calf*, and to be placed, by *him*, on high, for the infatuated *Israelites* to adore.

I am now arrived, my Lord, at the long-wished-for End of this Pamphlet, and a tedious Journey have I had ; very like travelling through a dirty, rough, narrow, perplexed Road. On the whole, you see, how *free* and *candid* his *Inquiry* is, into what Kind of Matters the *Inquiry* is, for the most Part, made, and how extremely necessary for the  
Interests

Interests of his Party it is, that this *Inquiry* should be perused, at this Time, by our *Representatives in Parliament, and their several Electors*. It will not, however, be without its Use, tho' contrary to his Intentions; for, as I have before observed his Violence makes him blab out the true Sentiments, Characters, and Schemes of his Masters. I own, he is so abominably stupid in many Places, that I am not without Apprehensions of being laughed at for being at the Pains of animadverting on them. For that Reason, as your Lordship will observe, I have passed over many Things, that occurred to me, in Silence, and have seldom indulged myself in censuring the mere Author, when the Party, he speaks for, are not concerned.

Gracious Heaven! what a Crisis are we now at! what a Height of Insolence and Presumption must a Party have arrived at, when Wretches, like this Author, are encouraged to vend Treason against the public Good! How should every Man of the Community exert himself in his particular Sphere, down from the Legislator to the Mechanic who votes for a Magistrate! The Cause is the Cause of Honesty, of Virtue, of Liberty, of Loyalty; our Sovereign is our invariable Friend, our Enemies are his, and he will joy to find us steady and resolute in preserving the Interest he has long loved, and on which the Happiness of the Nation absolutely depends.

My last Letter from *London* assures me, that the Design of the Union is determined to be set on Foot here next Session; it makes much Noise there,

there, it seems, and is condemned with Abhorrence by every Person but those who expect their private Emoluments from it. His G——, and his Son, are preparing to come over, and, I am told from *Dublin*, that the P—— is so elevated at their Approach, as to have disgusted, and lost, some of his nearest Friends by his Insolence within these few Months; a good Prognostic! so will a *forced, unnatural*, Interest for ever moulder before the *true*, the *natural*, and the *lasting* one; Men cannot be detached from the latter but by base Means, and on such a rotten Basis can no substantial Structure be raised.

The Event, my Lord, in a few Months will verify this, and we shall see our Administration shake off its present distorting Biases, and revert, like a well-tempered Bow, to its natural Rectitude; while the Schemes of our Enemies shall sink beneath the Weight of that *national Interest* which they seem to hold in Derision.

*I am, my LORD,*

*Your Lordship's most obliged,*

*And obedient humble Servant.*

F I N I S.

*Just published.*

- I. **A**N ANSWER to a late Pamphlet intituled,  
“ A Free and Candid Inquiry, &c. addressed to the Representatives of this Kingdom.”
- 

*Just imported from LONDON,*

- II. **T**HE HARLEQUINS. A Comedy. After the Manner of the *Teatre Italien*. As it is now acting, with great Applause, by a Company of Gentlemen, for the Entertainment of their Friends, at the Great Room in *Drumcondra-lane*.

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IV. *HIBERNIA PACATA*: or, A Narrative of the Affairs of *Ireland*, from the famous Battle of *Clontarf*, where *Brian Boiram* defeated the *Norwegians*, till the Settlement under *Henry II*. Written originally in *Irish*, and now first translated by Father *Neri* of *Tuam*; and adorned with Notes by several Hands.

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VI. A VINDICATION of the R—t H——e and H——e L—ds and Gentlemen, who have been basely aspersed, and scandalously mis-represented, in a late anonymous Work, intituled, *The History of ROGER*. By a Lover of Truth.

A S E C O N D  
L E T T E R

T O

A Person of Distinction in Town,

F R O M

A G E N T L E M A N in the Country.

C O N T A I N I N G,

Among other Things, some REMARKS on a  
late PAMPHLET, entitled, *Political Pastime*;  
*or, Faction display'd.*

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*A Fool quite angry is quite innocent.*

POPE.

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D U B L I N:

Printed in the Year MDCCCLIII.

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A S E C O N D  
L E T T E R

T O

A Person of Distinction in Town,

F R O M

A G E N T L E M A N in the Country.

My LORD,

**R**ETIRED as I am from the Bustle of the World, and destitute of every Ambition, but that of fulfilling the End of my Existence in the happy, though contracted, Sphere allotted me; yet must I avow myself not a little pleased at the Account your Lordship was so obliging as to give me of the favourable Reception which my last, and only, Attempt in Print was honoured with by the Public. It was written, indeed, in much Hurry and Inattention, amidst a Variety of very interesting Avocations; nor could any Thing have tempted me to permit it to the Press, but a Consciousness that every Sentiment was the Produce of a good Intention, unbias'd by Prejudice, and uninfluenced by Favours; from which naturally resulted a Hope, that an Appearance of the same Sincerity might so far strike the Imagination of a candid and good-natured Reader, as to incline him to overlook the Inaccuracies which probably must have ensued from the Circumstances wherein it was penn'd.

Howsoever enormous the Steps of Authority, and violent and insidious the Measures, exerted toward the Destruction of this Country ; yet even these would hardly have been sufficiently powerful to excite my Vanity, to take the Quill against them ; and had there been no other Motive, I should have left until this Hour unattempted a Task as hazardous as it was new. For to what Purpose ? The national Interest stood self-secured ; its own alluring Excellence had attracted many honourable Profelytes, and where THAT could fail of Success, no Man of common Modesty could hope for better Fortune, even from the most elaborate Productions of Reason, or the strongest and most lively Representations of Ridicule and Humour ; I mean, among the Persons engaged in Affairs : For an ordinary Knowledge of the World shews us, that *their* Division becomes instantly decisive, when the Cause of Virtue displays itself in all its Charms ; none can resist her Power but the worst of Men, and they lie as irretrievably bound in the Chains of Corruption, blinded by her dazzling Glitter to their own real and eternal Interests, and deaf to every Call of BENEVOLENCE and PUBLIC Good.

In this Situation, my Lord, where intrinsic Principles had determined the Choice among the Actors of the Scene, little could avail the Labours of the most consummate Genius, much less my weak Attempts ; and where unprejudiced and unconcerned Persons were to judge, the Conduct of our Enemies spoke sufficiently for itself, and wanted no Comment to display its Pravity : Nay, even through the Mists of Ignorance or uninform'd Capacity, the Extravagance of their Proceedings forced its Passage, and excited all that Abhorrence and Indignation which every Lover of his Country could desire. All hitherto was carried on by the only Means  
the



the Nature of their Schemes would permit; and if the Cause could boast of any Thing, it was a Taciturnity that look'd like some Degree of Reverence to Truth, and an Unwillingness to abuse its sacred Rules by perverting them into a Palliation of their iniquitous and unjust Designs.

But to curse the Party, and expose their Deformity, some malevolent Being whisper'd in the Ear of one of their unlucky Followers, and bid him write. This poor Gentleman had unfortunately dabled in Books, where having found a Variety of Encomiums on the Force and Charms of Reason, and that a Portion of that Faculty entered the Definition of Man, he took a Fancy to exert *his* intellectual Abilities, to reconcile us to the Merits of his Cause and throw a factitious Beauty on its Features by Dint of Intimacy with the Ancients. To which adventurous Project was added another much more feasible, and, to him, of much more Importance, to wit, the very probable View of being preferr'd for his Intrepidity in thus leading the Way to a Scheme of Defence, which even the most flattering Hopes of his Patrons had never before suggested to them. Resolving thus to avail himself of his good *Education*, he gets ready his *Cicero*, *Tacitus*, and *Sophocles*, brushes the Dust off his *Æschylus*, and sits down determined to persuade us, that we *ought* and must give up the Care of our Felicity out of the Hands of our proper, national, and only Guardians, to the Discretion of a Set of Men, by Interest and Principle, not only unconnected with our Fortunes, but also invariably bent on our Destruction.

With this Design, and those Materials, he falls to Work; History and Mythology are ransack'd, and his *Theme* is, in the collegiate Mode, garnished with Instances and Examples. To disguise its *Rummishness*, *Shakespear*, being spoken  
of

of as a Book of *Taste*, was, at all Events, introduced, with every old-fashioned Joke that Memory could supply. From all which noble Ingredients, shaken together, out comes the *Candid Inquiry*, introducing the P——e, in very uncommon Painting, to the Acquaintance and Esteem of our *Representatives in Parliament, and their several Electors*, bespattering all his Opposers, threatening us with his invincible Superiority, and closing all with — A hearty Wish for an Accommodation.

Wretched as this laboured Performance was, abounding with flagrant Inconsistencies, disgusting Scurrility, and Arguments and Discoveries, the most destructive of the System he took so much Pains to recommend; yet there are so many of the Community, who, by various Circumstances, are rendered incapable of judging but by public Accounts, and too indolent to bestow even that small Share of Attention that is necessary to detect the Imperfections of so bad a Cause as our Author's, that to leave his Assertions unexposed, and his Glossings, tho' so superficial, untouched, might have been the Foundation of many pernicious Mistakes and Prejudices. Such a Work, and such an Antagonist, I flattered myself I was equal to; and, prompted by this, I was induced to spare a few Hours from a Scene of Hurry, and commit to Paper some of those Sentiments, which must, on such an Occasion, arise in every honest and spirited Mind, where a People was thus repetitively insulted by so bad a Defence of so bad a Cause.

If one may be allowed to judge of the Merits of an Essay of this Kind from the Effect of it on its Adversary, I should draw an Inference in Favour of my little Performance that might swell my Vanity too high; for it has incensed my Friend the *Inquirer* to a prodigious Pitch. This was  
really

really more than I intended, nor am I quite easy in my Mind, about the ugly Consequences, which the apparent corroding Violence of his Constitution gives me no small Reason to apprehend. His Rage and Indignation are without Limit, and the Endeavours he has used to conceal them will, I fear, make their internal Operation still more dangerous. Every Person who adventures to meddle where Party is concern'd, must, indeed, lay his Account for meeting many severe and satyrical Reflections, as some Degree of Acrimony is but too inseparable from a Difference of Sentiments in Matters of Importance; but I do not recollect to have read any one in this Way, who seems to be so thoroughly carry'd out of himself by Vehemence of Passion, as the Gentleman I have had the Fortune to clash with.

A second Edition of his Pamphlet *was set on Foot*, and at the Head of it appeared an Advertisement, assuring the Public, there was nothing to the Purpose in all that had been written in Answer to him; for that not one of them had, in any Sort, induced him to retract his Sentiments; informing them, that the Characters of his Heroes had brighten'd up prodigiously in *his Eye*, by Means of the Dirt that had been thrown upon them by these mercenary Scriblers; and promising the World that they should have a Reply to the *Letter*, as soon as he had dispatch'd some private Affairs; after which he declared he would lay himself out for scolding, and abuse it heartily. Notwithstanding this Puff, I confess to your Lordship, I thought I should have heard no more of him, but I was mistaken; for, at that very Instant, the cruel Man had his second Performance on the Anvil, and professed himself otherwise employ'd, only the better to preserve it in *Petto* for the Arrival of the Lord Lieutenant; his Grace was to be presented with it in Form, and the Name  
of

— — — — —, the *intellctuals* on record of every brilliant Genius, was, of all others, the fittest to appear in the Front of our Author's ingenious Composition. This would, at the same Time, answer, in the most desirable Manner, the prime Motive of his Labours, give a Sanction to his Performance, and effectually intimidate even the most daring from presuming to oppose it.

Here first, my Lord, I repented of my sitting down to confute his *Inquiry*; nay, I could not but accuse myself of some Degree of Stupidity, in not foreseeing this Event. How natural was it, reflected I, to expect that a poor Man like this, palpably actuated only by a Prospect of some Preferment, and who does not care a Penny, exclusive of that, if both his own and the other Party were at old *Nick*, that such a one would be so far from being chagrined at a Confutation, that it was the most delicious Incident he could wish for; his first Attempt might have been forgot, and the Merit which he built upon it, had he not met an Opportunity of repeating it; and we find every Day how the most unmeaning Sound will force itself into Notice by Perseverance, and leaving a jingling *Memento* in the Ear. Was it not, in Proportion to my small Powers, pursuing the ridiculous ill-judged Plan of 1710, thus to contribute toward the Importance of this second *Sacheverel*, as like him in his Doctrines, as in his Genius and Effrontery? He had no Character, as an Author, to risk by a second Attempt; and I was infatuated not to foresee, that he would not cease to write, while Adulation could please, and Scurrility meet with Favour.

It seems, my Lord, this is one of that Class of Mortals, whom there is no discouraging; an old incorrigible profess'd Party-Writer. It is to this, his happy Talent, that this Kingdom is indebted for his Presence at this Day. *For your Intention-Sake,*

*Sake*, says his involuntary Patron on the other Side of the Water, *I will do something for you*, But — Sir — WRITE NO MORE; so on that Condition he was recommended and provided for here.

On receiving his *Political Pastime*, or *Faction display'd*, I confess my Curiosity was not a little raised; I knew my old Friend by his Motto, notwithstanding the humorous Addition of *Lover of Liberty, and Friend to his Country*; and as all Ridicule of this Nature rises in Proportion to the Inequality between the Subject-Matter and the Powers of the Discussor, so I could not but promise myself a good deal of Amusement from the Pamphlet before me, the Title of it giving me great Reason to expect, that some late, important, political Occurrences might constitute the Topic of his Dissertation. But he was more wisely employ'd, and was directing his Talents in a Manner more adequate to their Vigour, and more immediately to the Purpose of their Possessor.

My vainly anxious and inquiring Eye was first saluted, or rather dazzled, with a DEDICATION! This, thought I, confirms my Hopes; he has invoked our Tutelar Deity; and, by such a magnificent Exordium, some solemn Rite must ensue. The unhappy *Memorial* is to be the Sacrifice; no other Victim so proper or acceptable: The *Bully-Letters* shall supply the most grateful Incense, and our prostrate Priest shall, with all his usual Charms of Inspiration, call down Vengeance on this rebellious People, and — steal a Sigh for some little moderate Prebend for himself. Big with this Expectation, I hasten'd to cut the Leaves; when lo! instead of my Lord K——, I found — myself! instead of an Attempt to confute that unpardonable Proceeding with a Shew of Reason, History, and the Nature of our Constitution, covered with a decent Solemnity, that might

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render

render it more seemingly fit to be laid at the Feet of its mighty Patron, our chief Governor was presented with a second Edition of my little Pamphlet; labouring, indeed, under some Disadvantages of being mutilated, mis-recited, and misrepresented; but happy in any Guise to be honoured with his Grace's Eye.

Before I could well attend to any other Circumstance, I found myself under a Necessity of indulging a Fit of Mirth at a Mistake I found my Author's Zeal had led him into; it had made him blind enough to attribute my Production to a Gentleman, whose Abilities have been long distinguish'd, and have rendered him particularly useful in contributing to the Defence of his Country. The Truths contained in it had Hurt, and Resentment immediately pointed toward him, from whose extraordinary Powers, the Party had so often experienced Detection and Contempt, and against whom their Malice is proportionably implacable. I confess, I laughed a good deal at the Buffets and Abuse given to the poor innocent Baronet, who is now in the important Scene of Action, much better employ'd than I am, in answering the *Candid Inquirer* — How charitable, and how sagacious are the Workings of such a Spirit! — Sure that Gentleman has Reason to say with *Pope*,

————— *And can I chuse but smile,  
When ev'ry Blockhead knows me by my Stile?*

You desire, my Lord, I will say as much as this Pamphlet of his will afford Matter for, and I will endeavour to obey you, though, I protest, it is a very disagreeable Task: It is, indeed, an admirable Sequel to the *Candid Inquiry*: The Stile is long and flimsy, and as for the Ideas — *apparent rare nantes* — One starts up here and there,

there, and floats; looks, at a Distance, like *something*, until you attempt to touch it; then sinks, and leaves you in a wide Expanse of Words. This, my Lord, is an endless Fatigue; a clear and meaning Stile, and close connected Arguments, such as result from good Sense and an honest Cause, afford, indeed, some Room for Animadversion, and take off from the Unpleasingness of Writing: But what is to be done with an irregular, furious, vapouring, poor Creature, like this? I believe even you, my Lord, would be at a Loss to know.

Without further Ceremony, however, I will begin to do what I can; but I must first declare, and I hope you will forgive me, that you shall never catch me again at encountering any Writer of this Stamp: If I must ever dabble in Ink, I will do myself the Justice to chuse an Adversary, who may afford me some Pleasure in the Contest, and a Possibility of Honour in a Victory. This will secure me from the disagreeable Necessity I am now brought into, of banging Insensibility, and throwing Contempt on the highest Self-Satisfaction.

To do Honour first to his Dedication, which is, indeed, extraordinary in every Article, I must beg Leave to recommend to your Lordship's Contemplation, two very curious Anecdotes, and which, I believe, you will allow to be entirely new in their Kind. After abusing the *Memorial* and *Memorialist*, and giving a Detail of the Progress of *Faction*, he informs us, in the Height of his Glory, that he had the Honour of transmitting to his Grace, to *England*, his last Performance, the CANDID INQUIRY; and soon after bursts into the alluring Confession, the most recommendatory Boast, that he is, and long hath been, beatify'd in an intimate Acquaintance with our Metropolitan. Did not this make you stare, my Lord?

Are you not ashamed to place me against such an Antagonist? — Sure never was any Man, more particularly a Party-Writer, so totally destitute of common Caution! The Weight of Impartiality is eminently requisite in Treatises of that Nature, as the Topics are of such great and universal Concern; but here is a Gentleman, who, not content with implicitly displaying himself in every Line, must, in plain Terms, avow himself in the closest Connection with one of the Principals of the Party, the Hero of his Tale, and brag, with the greatest Pomp, that he writ for the Perusal of him, who is (at least seemingly) the Head and Life of those Designs, which, in that very Performance, he attempted to vindicate! This too, after repeated Declarations therein, that every Sentiment took its Rise from no other Motive on Earth, but an Impulse in Favour of injured Innocence, and an Ambition to promote the public Good! The unhappy *Inquiry*! Had thy Ruin wanted any Thing to compleat it, this would have done it to Perfection. Such Testimonies of Impartiality and Veracity! And from a Man's own Mouth too, an old and experienced Author!

Leaving the few Hints in this Dedication, that relate to some important Matters, to be enlarged on in another Place, and permitting our Author the full Enjoyment of the many modest Encomiums on himself therein also contain'd, proceed we now to the Essay itself; on which before I enter, I must beg your Lordship not to be too severe in your Opinion, but let your Good-nature take into Consideration, that it was written merely and solely as a Basis of the prefixed Address; it is, indeed, pretty plain, that, had Custom authorized it, the whole Bulk of the Pamphlet would have been a DEDICATION; so that, having a View to his Intent, you must throw a forgiving Eye on the subsequent Part of the Performance.

The



The Plan of his Proceedings he judiciously draws from his Fund of Satyrical Humour. The Reason of this Choice, he informs his Grace, was founded on the immortal *Ridiculum acri*, by which lucky Quotation, he ingeniously steals out of the distressing Necessity of entering into the Merits of his Cause. Truth is, indeed, too formidable a Foe for the most powerful Abilities in open fair Attack, and an empty Jibe could be the only Refuge of an Adversary like this; a Kind of Skirmish, which, though incapable of hurting, yet always leaves an Open for Retreat. Besides, I fancy the *Success* of the *Inquiry* had given him some little Dislike to a Shew of Argument. But, whatever was his Motive, Severity of Humour was his Plan, and to work he goes. The first Victims were two or three Pamphlets, extorted by the ridiculous Insolence of his *Inquiry*; much more deserving Attention than mine, and therefore, I suppose, he passed them over, after some Strokes collected from the *Battle of the Books*, and leaving the full Force to their Confutation. Mine he introduces in all the Pomp that Extravagance and Incoherency could supply, and, like an experienced Connoisseur, places it, as the principal Figure of the Piece, in the most glaring Point of Light, the better to illustrate all its Complication of *Falshoods* and *Villanies*.

Being an Enemy of the first Degree, my Punishment was to be suited to my Crimes; a new Instrument of Torture was devised to distinguish me by Ignominy and Pain, and strike a Terror among all my *facetious* Associates. The Contrivance, my Lord, was this, and, indeed, but for a trifling Mistake of the Artificer, it would have been a grievous one. Having heard, or read, that no Master-piece in Writing is so excellent, as that which retorts the Arguments of an Antagonist, and makes them subservient to his

his own Destruction, he determines to proceed upon this Model; but happening in his Hurry to take *Repetition* for *Retorting*, he puts several Scraps, pick'd off from different Paragraphs of my Pamphlet, into the Mouth of a third Person, supposed to be of the same Sentiments with himself, and that, without ever dreaming to annex one Circumstance to throw a Ridicule. This is a Species of Irony, of which, I believe, my Author will be allow'd the sole Honour of the Invention.

But, because even a Repetition could not always be so dextrously introduced, the *easy* and *ingenious* Expedient with Readiness suggested itself to our Author, of changing my Words into others, which would fall into the Sphere of his Burlesque, and, at the same Time, by being put in *Italic* Characters, may be mistaken for mine by the Generality of Readers, who are too little interested, to be at the Trouble of a Comparison. This Stratagem was also play'd with great Success. *Dolus an Virtus*, an old Maxim with his Party, occur'd to him, and he found himself qualify'd for its Execution. The many Instances of this, I shall not, at present, set about to enumerate, but leave them to the Contemplation of such as think it worth their while to recur to my former *Letter* for Conviction, and congratulate my Author on the Sentiments that will be excited in his Favour, in Consequence of such a Review, and a Reflection on his many obvious Misrepresentations; one or two of which I will beg Leave to mention, not to vindicate my Meaning, but to help your Lordship to a full Idea of this Gentleman's Abilities, and Candour.

In Pages 9. and 10. of my Letter, I had pointed at the Want of Interestedness in the Concerns of Society, which must necessarily subsist where an Indifference to the Welfare of Posterity prevails;

prevails ; and, to confirm this Sentiment, I produced the Sanction of Antiquity in the Encouragement given to Marriages, and the View in which the Eunuchs were considered in those Ages by the most politic and the most beneficent Princes. This was all that was there *expressed* ; but I also confess that an Inference, too indelicate for plain Terms, was there intended, and, I think, pretty apparently, against such as aspire to the Direction of a whole People, and, consequently, to the greatest Influence on the Welfare of them and their Posterity for ever ; yet not only negatively demonstrate an Aversion to the Source of all the endearing Relations, but also improve that selfish, unsociable, Temperament, by an Indulgence of Passions, in their very Nature, inconsistent with the Happiness of Society, and even private Life, much more with a tender Care for the Felicity of Millions. In this Light I characterised them with the Eunuchs, as actuated by the same political Principles, though from a different Cause. And, in this Light, I apply'd that Quotation, so remarkably applicable to *both*, and so extremely pertinent to our present Situation. The Purport of it was, that being unconnected with the present and future Race of Mankind, and solely intent on their own Elevation, they endeavoured its Accomplishment by the basest Measures ; *By so effectually besetting their Prince, and suffering Nothing, to reach his Ear, unconsonant with their own Misrepresentations, that the Intercourse, on which his and his People's Happiness essentially depend, was entirely shut up, and preventing him, by their wicked Assiduity, from that Knowledge of the Grievances of his loving Subjects, which would have led him to immediate Redress, and have covered their Spoilers with Confusion.* — Unhappy Prince ! Unhappy People ! — How happy they whose Constitution enables them at once to alarm their

Sovereign's

Sovereign's Caution, and disperse every dangerous Combination against their Repose !

These, my Lord, were my Sentiments ; and what do you think is the natural, necessary, and easy Consequence of them, according to our ingenious *Inquirer* ? What, indeed, no one could have hit on, but himself, to wit, that *ergo, every Batchelor must be an Enemy, by Principle, to the public Good.* — Is this a Mistake do you think, or only a voluntary one ? Is it likely that he, whose Head (from what Reason, I know not) seems, on all Occasions, so possessed with his Patron's *Foible*, that he has emblazon'd it more conspicuously than ever, and immortalized it as far as his Works can go ? Is it likely that he should thus, on a sudden, forget its Notoriety, and imagine that Celibacy only was pointed at in the last recited Paragraph ? Or will you think with me, my Lord, that he was sharper than he would own, and chose to pick out one Circumstance to play upon, the *better* to turn into Ridicule a Collection of Likenesses, more applicable than he desired ?

My Way of Reasoning from private to public *Virtue*, will hardly, I believe, be controverted ; as Reason and Experience clearly evince its Propriety, and Writers of the first Class have vouchsafed to adopt it. The particular Point before us will bear, I think, the clearest Deduction. An ordinary Insight into human Nature demonstrates, that the Faculties of the Soul undergo a Kind of mechanical Effect from the Force of Habit, and wear, like a Stream, by constant running, a peculiar Channel for themselves to flow in : These will ever be more extensive or contracted, in Proportion to the Care that is taken of the Direction of the *Current* ; and the deeper they are sunk, the more difficult to enlarge them. Much more may be said on this. The very Existence of Society depends on properly diffusing these Affections,

Affections, and hindering them, by a constant Exertion, from tending to their much-loved Center, *Self*. Hence every Art and Science, and every polish'd Institution. This their Basis, and this alone their Use. Hence all the Force and Beauty of *Epic* and *Tragic* Fiction, where even unreal Objects improve our Nature, by keeping alive the social Passions, and preserving their Vigour until a real Emergency demands their Aid. On this too, even our Author must allow (unless his Divinity is as low as his Politics) rests all the Reason of the divine Interdictions against such of our Appetites, as incline us, in their Gratification, to a selfish Disposition, and contract our Regards into so confined a Circle, as to exclude every Care and every Wish not immediately subservient to the darling Passion.

The opposite Turn of Mind is never so effectually promoted as by a Multiplicity of tender Connexions. The Soul, divided into Fondness, and bending all its Cares on a Variety of endearing Objects, comes at last almost to forget *itself*, and gains increasing Strength in generous and godlike Sentiments. Marriage, for this Reason, as the Fountain of *all the Charities*, and in itself the Scene of every tender Passion, becomes a Duty, where *real* Hurt or Inconvenience does not plead the Excuse. But to wave a Tenet, that may look, perhaps, too singular, this, at least, must be admitted, that little Latitude of Concern for the distant and extensive Interests of Society can rationally be hoped for, where an Indifference for its Perpetuation is supported and increased by a Gratification of Pursuits, founded on the most contemptible Ideas of human Nature, which derogate from its Rank in Creation, and render our Species too vile, even in the Eye of the Perpetrators, to deserve one fond Regard, or one tender Consideration.

Many are, and have been, doubtless, blessed in Celibacy with as great or greater Sociality of Nature, than may often be found among the Married; too vague and indeterminate is the Structure of Man to reduce into absolute unexceptionable Maxims; and none but this Author of mine could think of so childish a Construction of the Sentiments I had express'd. But where no Symptoms of such general Benevolence have ever been display'd; where, at the same Time, there are no Pledges that may force, as it were, a Man's Nature, and extort from it some Degree of Care for Society; where every Passion divides, and every connecting Principle (even that of Interest) is wanting, what People that did not lie immediately under the Rod of divine Vengeance, and were not struck with Blindness and Infatuation, ever entrusted a Man, or Men, so circumstanced with a Command, nay, with any Influence, over the Felicity of themselves and their Posterity? This, my Lord, I am so far from thinking a mere Point of Speculation, that I look on it as one of the greatest and most certain Truths we know.

I hope my Author will think me orthodox in my Opinion, and quite consonant with *St. Paul*, though a little more explicit than the Apostle; who, I believe, could he have foreseen our present Days, would have left a whole Epistle for the Benefit of his Successors: And, I fancy, as it is, that some of his Doctrines and those of his blessed Master, were they ever read and considered with due Reverence and Attention, would come so home to some Bosoms, as to make them tremble amidst the Pomp of Power, the Flatteries of Sycophants, and the Allurements of Ambition.

But I don't know — I may be uncharitable — It runs strongly in my Head that they have got *St. Paul* on their Side; *They* are his Expositors, and we can no more understand him without their Assistance.

Assistance, than an Act of Parliament without a Lawyer. — Who knows the Interpretation of EVERY MAN HATH HIS PROPER GIFT, or what a Latitude of Dispensation it may afford? Our Author gives it to us in reverential Capitals, as if it was the Motto of some *Society*. — I can't tell; he knows best. — He tells himself, in another Place, that he is *very arch*.

We are here presented, my Lord, with two or three Instances of that Figure in Oratory, which I have before mention'd; I do not recollect any technical Appellation for it, and the vulgar Epithet is too coarse to be used but by our Author: It consists in sometimes quoting Expressions which were never used by our Adversary, and sometimes in placing his Expressions in such a Manner as to convey Ideas, which they never could convey in their original Situation, and passing them, under these Circumstances, on the Public as *his*. It is a very ingenious Figure, and has this peculiar Advantage, that it reflects in the same Instant the greatest Lustre on the Goodness of the Cause, and the Honesty and Abilities of the Writer. Several Places of his Pamphlet abound with it in both its Branches; here you have it chiefly in the latter. The Words *Omissions* and *Commissions*, no very extraordinary ones I should think, and hardly worth repeating, which I had happen'd to use in speaking to your Lordship about his Patron's Neglect of his Diocese, are here introduced in distinguish'd Characters as *mine*; and, by Virtue of these two innocent Words, I am made to say, that the necessary Consequence of Celibacy is an Addiction to the most abominable Vices. This, my Lord, is that Figure by which, it has been observed, Treason may be extracted from an Act of Parliament, and Blasphemy from the Gospel; and is, indeed, a Method of refuting that it is impossible to withstand.

I hope I need not assure your Lordship that my Nature is offended in being obliged thus to dwell, even in a cover'd Manner, on a personal Reflection, and that, of so black and detestable a Dye. It is true, that when a Man forfeits all Pretension to the Regard of the Community he lives in, by ambitious Views against their Happiness, and a Display of Insolence, Want of Truth and Honour, and Ingratitude to the Welfare of that Country, whence he derives that Pomp and Riches which have raised him from Obscurity ; a Casuist will argue, that he has also forfeited all Title to the Tenderness of that People, and that Humanity, which, in a common Case, teaches us to suppress the Imperfections of our Species ; nay, that when the *Fault* carries all the Strength of Evidence its Nature will permit, and is, in itself, of such a Tendency, as to extinguish every extensive generous Principle, and, consequently, repugnant to the very Spirit of Government (under which, besides, its contagious Influence may be foster'd to the most dangerous Maturity) that then it is not only excusable, but even right, *so far* to exhibit it to the Attention of the Society, as to point out the Perils that must ensue, from their permitting Success to attend the aspiring Proprietor. That, until he withdraws his Designs, and takes Shelter from the Imputation in the private Circle, he must expect to have his Faults made as conspicuous as he would make himself, and to be exempted from Tenderness and Forbearance, while he continues to exempt himself from the Duties of his Station. All this, I say, a Casuist may urge, and, for aught I know, with Justice : But it is hard for one to break through Habit and Prejudices of common Life, nor will Judgment be always strong enough to carry us through these violent Efforts, where a Softness of Nature controuls the Flight. This I must confess



confess myself disadvantaged by, and therefore, not all the Pains my Author has taken in this Part of his Book and elsewhere, not all the repeated Overtures he has made to promulge his Patron's Shame, can prevail on me to be the Prosecutor. What, does he expect me to go into a Detail of Places, Facts, and Names? To produce universal Suspicion, and argue on the great Improbability of its being entirely groundless? To freshen up old Narratives, and exhibit a public Charge already made by an *Associate*? And to illustrate the whole with Probabilities of the highest Nature, drawn from Intimates, Opportunities, and foreign Conversation? No, my Lord, some other's Task be this. What I have said in Allusion to it, has been extorted by this his Advocate, to whom, indeed, he is often prodigiously indebted for *its* Promulgation. Happy for *him* that his Work must die!

Vexed at the Manner in which, in the 30th Page of my *Letter*, I had treated some general Observations of his, spun out with a most soporific Dulness, in the 32d and 33d Pages of his *Inquiry*, and resolving to have them regarded with some Degree of Attention, he *most* naturally puts them into the Mouth of his imaginary third Person, and, after repeating them, enters into a Paraphrase upon their Merits. I assure him, I did not affect a Contempt for these his Abstractions, but that I passed them over, from a sincere real Belief, that, however just and refined they may be in themselves, there was no Kind of Necessity for my swelling my Pamphlet by an Animadversion on them, and, that as I was satisfied, so he would be pleased with my leaving them to stand in their full Force and Virtue. However, as he insists on it, I will indulge him, in a few Words, upon these his darling Sentiments, so freighted with irresistible Argument.

The

The Purport of them is, *that as Characters are generally so unequally rated, and so unjustly handled, common Reputation can never be a safe Standard for Judgment.* In illustrating which Proposition, he resolves, at the same Time, to overset the Test, on which I had offered, in my 29th Page, to rest the Vindication of his Patron, from the Odium of a Knave; I mean my Appeal to the Suffrages of all, who may reasonably be supposed to be candid in their Declarations. This performed, he harangues by Way of Corollary, to give Instances and Reasons, why the *Multitude* have been generally wrong in their Prejudices, and honours *Socrates, Scipio, and Aristides* by a Parallel. He does not pretend to controvert the *Fact* of the Majority of black Beans, nor even the Disproportion I had stated, which, I think, was an hundred to one against his unfortunate Hero: This is rather more than a Person would chuse, I should imagine, but, to accommodate him, he shall have a thousand to select a *Friend* from. The Defence, however, consists in this, that, be the Majority ever so great, it is not to be allowed as a Foundation for Opinion; which he shews by his two *Postulata*, according to that Mode of Reasoning (I have almost forgot my *Logic*) which convinces, by shewing the bad Consequences of the contrary Tenet.

In order to treat him with that Respect, which, I find, he expects, and which he so highly deserves, and, at the same Time, to be as brief as possible for my own Ease, I shall beg Leave to present him with a Couple of *Postulata* of a more serious Turn, to be placed in Apposition to his, which will, I believe, remain uncontroverted, and, at the same Time, afford me all I desire on this Subject.

P O S T U L A T A.

## P O S T U L A T A.

*Postulatum imum.* That universal Concurrence [i. e. *the Voice of the People*, which, by his first *Post.* he gives up] in Matters which cannot fall immediately under our own Knowledge or Inspection, must be deemed a full and sufficient Ground for absolute Belief, until we have found out the Method of acquiring Omnipresence and Omniscience.

*2dum.* That [supposing the Concurrence not so strong as in our Subject, but only] the *Majority* of the World against a Man's Integrity must, *at least*, raise such a Doubt in every rational Mind, as to ground, in the justest and wisest Manner, a determined Resolution of excluding *that Man* from all Share in a public Administration, where such Want of Integrity must necessarily be followed by the Perdition of that Society. And, so far, such *Testimony* is to be allow'd as a competent and invariable Rule of Action.

These, I hope, will be thought quite agreeable to the Sentiment which gave Rise to this Controversy, though I have neither ascribed *divine Authority* or *Infallibility* to the Voice of the Public, as my Adversary, according to the before-mentioned Rules of his polemical Proceedings, has been graciously pleased to represent. *These* are, indeed, beyond the Reach of human Evidence, and out of the Limits of Mortality, unless they are Attributes of our Writer's *Deity*.

One *Postulatum* I had forgot, and a material one to me it is; for, had I not laid hold on it, I should have left my Author in Possession of his principal Instrument of Attack: By the Help of the Reverse, indeed, he would overthrow all I have been doing, as he has every other Argument, and every Fact. I shall, therefore, insist on it,  
that

that a Man, in the above-mentioned unhappy Predicament of Character, can never be washed white in the Eye of the World, by all the Pains and Affeverations of one, who, apparently by his Writings, and avowedly by his own Confession, is his Creature and Dependent. If all, or any of these, my *Postulata*, are deny'd, I will undertake to erect a System of Scepticism and Confusion, the End of which no human Sagacity can foresee.

But indeed, my Lord, I am growing ashamed of insisting on such Trash. To reason with a conceited Child, and ridicule it out of its forward and empty Pretensions to Independency of Judgment, and Force of Argument, is a Task of much the same Nature, full as agreeable, and full as effectual: Something that may suggest more pleasing Matter must be found, something of more Consequence than our Author, or his Patron, who have personally already engrossed too much of my Leisure and my Letter.

Shall I venture to say any Thing of the MEMORIAL? or will your Lordship think my private Sentiments too insignificant, perhaps too vain, on so important, and much-canvassed, a Subject? What may be the Case in your Part of the World, I know not; but, where I converse, Ignorance, inflamed by Party, so powerfully obtains, that I have hardly met with an Opinion on this Occurrence, which, to me, appear'd rational and just. Where the Advantages of Education afforded a Power of judging, they were generally so perverted by Prejudice and Passion, that, instead of pointing out the Truth, they only supply'd additional Matter for its Disguise, and pester'd us with a verbose Jargon, ornamented with the Sounds of *History, Precedent, Duty, Loyalty*, and *the Nature of our Constitution*; just such as tinkle in the few Lines which our Author has bestowed on this Head, who, doubtless, pick'd  
them

them up from some of this Class I have mentioned, tho' I would refer *him*, I think, with more Justice, to another which fills the Bulk of our Politicians here, I mean the *Dogmatists*, Persons incapable of *Choice* in their Sentiments; who, after a competent adjusting of their Wigs, and Eye-Brows, have often, in my Hearing, with great Solemnity declared, that, *in their Opinions*, it would absolutely bear an IMPEACHMENT.

For this Reason, my Lord, my System of Thought, upon this Subject, is new, at least, to myself; I will therefore beg Leave to deliver it you, hoping, with some Assurance, that it may meet your Approbation, and perhaps, if you think fit to publish this Letter, affect the Opinions of some of my Readers, whose Want of Opportunities, or Attention, may incline them to the Reception of mis-represented Facts, and premature ill-grounded Judgments. This I do not presume on from any other Motive, than a Consciousness of an unbiaised, calm Disquisition of this Subject, whose Difficulty and whose Demerits consist entirely in its Uncommonness, and its Importance.

I believe, my Lord, you must have observed it, that, of all Truths, the simplest and easiest of Conception are those on which the Happiness of Man most essentially depends. Such are the Fundamentals of Religion and Politics, which are, in themselves, within the Reach of every Capacity, that is able to comprehend the Terms they are expressed in; nay, they must, indeed, present of themselves to every commonly-informed Mind, that will make them in the least the Subjects of its Contemplation. What then disturbs the Peace of Society, and excites the many destructive Comotions which infest it, when, from a Similarity of Structure, we are all adapted to the Reception of these important Principles, which are, in their

own Nature the strongest Ties of Union, and most powerful Promoters of Harmony? Why Passion, that perpetual, and too mighty Enemy of Reason. The very Importance of those Truths induces many to contest them. The vain Singularity of some has made it necessary to demonstrate the Being of a God, and the Interest of others has set the ablest Heads at Work to shew, that one human Creature has not a Right, at Pleasure, to dispose of the Lives and Happiness of Millions. No Proposition is so incapable of Proof as the self-evident, yet on such will Altercations and Divisions continue, until the Heart shall cease to influence the Head.

On one or more of these great Truths do the Merits of the MEMORIAL depend; and, indeed, the Assertion of its *Rectitude* constitutes, in itself, a most useful and important Maxim to Society. To deduce which Proof, will, I think, be easy from the following Considerations; in which, if I should err, it is without Design, and neither Fact or Reasoning shall undergo a voluntary Palliation. The first Part of its Character I will speak to, shall be that which is censured by our Author in his 7th Page, under the ironical Epithets of *dutiful* and *loyal*. I know he would be angry if I lost Sight of him, and I shall therefore keep him in my Eye; though, I suppose, he will excuse my including, under these Heads, all that he has said on this Subject in his Dedication, where he must be forgiven for losing his Meaning in the *Pulsome* and *Bombast*.

The Measures lately formed and assiduously prosecuted against the Repose of this Nation, your Lordship, and, indeed, almost every Person, knows, to have been in its Source, and every Article of its Progress; *a private one*: The Result of a Cabal of Subjects, resolved to avail themselves of their Power, Possessions, and *Influence*, by fixing an extensive and dangerous Dominion  
over

over the People of this Island. A Design formed by a Junto on the *other Side*, grounded on a contracted illiberal Idea of the Genius and Abilities of the Subjects of their Ambition, and to be executed *here* by a few who were qualified with that precipitate Rashness which was so necessary to the Attempt, and alone could inspire them with any the least Prospect of Success. The Consequences of this Scheme are as terrible to Reflection, as the Prospect of them is unbounded to the View. Many Individuals promised themselves mighty Emoluments from it; Pomp and Affluence were to crown some *here*, and the Fruits of thriving Industry and Management were to be transmitted to supply the Deficiencies of Mal-Administration. The whole Plan was therefore, in every Instance, most destructive to us, and also as pernicious to our elder Sister *Britain*, as it was unconnected with, and unsupported by its public and national Policy.

The Sanction and Authority thrown upon their Measures by their Success in gaining an Ascendancy over the royal Representative, and blinding his good Disposition formerly display'd for our Welfare, supply'd, at the same Time, the most effectual Occasions of promoting their Popularity. The King's and Kingdom's long tried Friends, restrained by Interest and Principle from countenancing them, and placed by both above the Shocks and the Temptations of Power, were, by every possible Means, to be treated with Contempt, and spoil'd of their Influence. The Recommendation to Appointments, apparently the just and unalterable Due of the Majority of the representative Body of the Nation, who pay and support their Appointments, and which had, for a Course of Years, with unequalled Marks of Honour, and all the Confidence arising from his distinguished Merit, been vested in their much loved Leader,

was taken from him with every Mark of contemptuous Insolence, and lodged in Men, whose every Motive must induce them to use those Appointments only as Baits of Corruption: And, in general, the Steps that were taken, were exactly consonant to the Nature of the nefarious Design.

Notwithstanding all these Advantages, the first Trial of their Strength was unsuccessful, and the Nation was too strong. The Distributive Power, however, continuing, the sanguine Hopes of the Projectors flattered them with better Views, and the same indefatigable Measures were pursued. One grand, inviolable Precaution was, from the Beginning, observed to keep the true Knowledge of our Situation from the Ears of HIM, whose good Disposition, and our Deserts, must incline him to the most instant and zealous Redress. But this was not *now* sufficient; the Opposition given *here* he must have learn'd, and its true Motives were therefore to be disguised by a Representation of false ones: The Injury done us in this Particular, amounts in Certainty almost to Demonstration; and as it was essentially necessary to prevent a total Abortion of their Schemes, so it gave Rise to, and forms the Merit of, the noble Attempt now under our Consideration.

The Subject they had chosen to try their Strength on, was such as contributed to reflect additional Dishonour on their Cause. An Embezler of the public Money was call'd to an Account, and supported, with all their Might, through the Course of a Trial, which, from its equitable Candour, and most satisfactory Minuteness, spread an universal Conviction of his Guilt, and the flagrant Injustice of his Supporters. Content, however, with shewing their Superiority, and chusing that the adequate Punishment of such a Fraud should come from another Hand,  
of



of which they could have no Doubt after so solemn a Declaration of his Deserts as the *Resolutions* of a NATION, they remitted all further much-merited Disgrace ; demonstrating the Warmth of their pacific Inclinations, and their total Purity from Party-Rage.

What then was the Consequence ? Why, this Man, thus convicted in the most ample and most conspicuous Manner, before the highest Tribunal, of the most enormous Dishonesty, and Breach of Trust ; of robbing a Nation, and distressing, nay, destroying many of the Forces kept for his Majesty's and the Kingdom's Service, was permitted to part with his Employment on such honourable and profitable Terms, as are only the Reward of Honour and Integrity ; and this, palpably, not as a mere Indulgence, but an important Piece of Service, which, as they hoped, might exempt him from any further Trouble, or any Necessity of Restitution. Let common Sense now answer, what possible, assignable Cause for such an Incident, but a violent Perversion of Truth, and the falsest Representation to the Throne, of the Principles and Dispositions of this People ? Could our Sovereign, the honestest of Men in his own Nature, and who saw the most solemn Decisions that could result from a national Inquiry, and the Heads of the Particulars which supported them, could he bring himself to doubt of the Criminal's Guilt, or withstand the Impulse he must feel to vindicate a deserving, plundered, People, nay, to reward their Plunderer, unless these public Censures had been pictured by those, who, to *him*, had no apparent Interest in a Misrepresentation, as the undeserved and *occasional* Measures of a furious *Faction* ? Can any Man otherwise account for the Voice of a Nation failing in its usual, and natural, Weight and Energy, without necessarily asserting the Falsity of an

Axiom

AXIOM, which, by its great and immutable Truth, has long supported the Felicity of these Dominions, to wit, THAT OUR MOST EXCELLENT SOVEREIGN IS POSSESSED OF AS GREAT HONESTY OF INTENTION, AND TRUE DIGNITY OF SOUL, AS EVER DID HONOUR TO HUMAN NATURE?

But to cut off all Doubt of the Hardships we incurred in this Particular — Let Memory supply the recent Circumstance, so ill-boding to our Peace, and so punctually fulfilled; the too plain, though equivocal, Promise of Representation made in Answer to the *parting Address*. Preceding Declarations and correspondent Events carry to me, my Lord, all the possible Force of Conviction. What now was to be done? What End was to be assigned, or expected, to a Step of this Nature? What Remedy for the past, or what Prevention for the future, but to break through the *besieging* Junto, and lay before the royal Inspection, those important Truths, which the Parliament had forborne through Tenderness to HIS Representative, and a Hope that the Sallies of Ambition might meet a Check from the Demonstration they had given of their vastly superior Power?

This struck the Patriot Attention of that illustrious Person, who truly reflects Honour on Nobility; and his Intrepidity suggested the Resolution of awakening the Guardian Care of THE FATHER OF HIS COUNTRY, by becoming a personal Advocate for his People, pointing out their Grievances, and the Source, and opening again the Channel of Communication, whose *natural* Current had been obstructed, and on which the very Life and Being of public Happiness essentially depend. If it was without a *Precedent*, so was the Occasion that made it necessary. THE GOOD OF HIS COUNTRY was at once its Motive and its Justification; and we may judge from the Rage and  
Violence

Violence it excited, how great and unexpected a Stroke it was to the Schemes of *the Association*.

Now, my Lord, I should be glad to know from our Author, or any Person else, what it is in this Affair that constitutes a Breach of *Duty* or *Loyalty*. Is it the making known to the tenderest and best of Parents the Complaints and Distresses of his affectionate Children? The opening his View on the iniquitous Schemes of his Servants, gaping for *their* Possessions, and eager to spoil them of their *Birth-Right*? But, perhaps, the Gentleman takes his Hint from the Letter *ascribed* to the Patron of his Dedication, where we are told that this Proceeding was an Attack upon *Government*: He, however, cannot plead the Excuse, that the Rage of the disconcerted Dictator of that *politic* Epistle is intitled to, which alone could suggest such an extravagant Prostitution of Phrase.

Thus far for the Merits of the MEMORIAL, as to its *Duty* and *Loyalty*: The *Correctness* and *Diſtion*, which are also attempted in Ridicule by our elegant Author, are very uncertain Subjects of Criticism in the Editions of it that have come into this Part of the World, which are so vilely printed, that they are hardly legible. This, alone, makes me doubt whether the extant Copy is thought genuine, or only the Substance that has transpired: For, barring the Poverty and Incorrectness of the Impression, I have no other Reason to hesitate; so far from it, that I think it carries with it strongly the spirited Intention, the Honesty, and Truth of the MEMORIALIST. Truth needs no borrowed Ornament; and, in an Address to Majesty, a Superfluity of Words would have been the most absurd Impropriety.

The Memorial is thus presented: Well, and where are the dismal Consequences to this People, which our Author seems to intimate in his 8th Page? Is it not somewhat probable, that, were  
he

he ask'd, he could not even frame one, or indeed tell us a Word more about the Matter than he has there expressed? Permit me, therefore, my Lord, since I have presumed thus far, to be impertinent for a few Lines more, and supply his Deficiency by some Conjectures, which, I hope, will be thought neither strained or improbable.

The Portrait exhibited of us in Consequence of our Defence of our Country, was (according to the highest Rules of human Probability) such as must have infinitely astonish'd the royal Mind; so directly the Reverse of what our former constant Conduct, and the concurrent *Reports* of our Governors, had pictured. Our Features were, doubtless, overcharged with Deformity; more than was *likely*, more than was *natural*; for disappointed Zeal often overshoots, and where Defamation is founded only in Resentment, the Softenings of Humanity, which, in a *real Case*, may obtain, are entirely excluded. How far these Representations, though supported with such Authority, may have raised a Doubt in our Disfavour, or whether their Effect amounted only to a Suspicion of our Sovereign, that some *extraordinary* latent Cause had excited such an extraordinary Account of us, is hard to determine: But this, I think, his own Excellence, and our demonstrated Affection, leave us no Room to hesitate in asserting, that he must have felt a paternal Solitude and a tender Anxiety for our Vindication. How Heart-felt must be then his Joy at receiving it by our illustrious Messenger; honoured, as much as a single Hand could honour it, with all the Lustre of Character, Rank, and Property; and displaying, in one short View, all the true Sources of our *Disaffection*! Thus was the Purpose of the MEMORIAL answer'd; the only one that ever was, or could have been proposed, and this was a great one; Mis-infor-

mations

mations being confuted, and Mis-conceptions removed, new Vigour accrued to every Measure, and breathed fresh Spirit into every Breast. The Contest now became that of the King and People, against a few aspiring Subjects, whose Schemes were thus contemptibly exposed to *his* Eye, and, consequently, unnerved in the most essential Part. These were the *Consequences* of the Memorial, and of these *their* Consciousness has apparently been proved by their late intimidated Behaviour.

Why then (my Author, or some such other, may demand) was the Deputation continued, when it is so essential to the Promotion of these Schemes? The Answer, my Lord, I think is easy. No Dilemma should, or can, permit us to allow a Want of Care in the royal Mind for *our* Safety and Repose: This they *alone* are guilty of, who contend, in Favour of our Adversaries, against the System I have advanced, and there *alone* is the Breach of *Duty* and *Loyalty*: Still less allowable is such a Concession, when an ordinary Knowledge in *modern Administration* so easily points out the Clue. Extensive Influence, Alliances, and Possessions, make it highly inconvenient, if not dangerous, to thwart the Supporters of our Antagonists. This Necessity obliges HIM, who has always preferred the public Happiness to his own, to sacrifice even his private Ease by Indulgence to a *Set*, whose Conduct, as he has shewn on more Occasions than one, has rendered them obnoxious to him in the highest Degree. He saw the Weakness of the *Association* by the Event of their Attempts, and their Consciousness of it by their Mis-representations; so that, resting secure of our *national Strength*, he wisely and justly chose the lesser Evil, of putting *that* to a gentle Exertion, rather than the much greater that might ensue in a more important Sphere on a Refusal.

Is there any Thing in these Facts not notoriously true, or any Thing not most naturally connected in this Reasoning? Is it not, in the highest Degree, consistent both with his Glory, and his Affection, for *us*? Is it not exactly consonant with my Lord *H*——'s Letter? The Deputy was to be continued, and the *Memorial* must *therefore*, by all the Rules of common Sense and decent Regularity, *seem* inferior in Weight to the Authority of *his* Representations: And yet, even on the Face of that Letter, notwithstanding all the Colourings and Exaggerations of Phrase, appears an earnest Desire of having the Matter of the Memorial inforced in a Way, to which the Want of Form could not be objected, and which would sufficiently justify that Redress, which, for every Reason, our royal Master must be inclined to give. Let my Reader consider this Letter, and he will, I believe, find it not only agreeable with, but also confirmatory of, the System I have here advanced; let him reflect whether his Majesty *could* avoid a Declaration in Favour of his own Representative; whether every Thing said therein be not the necessary Consequence of that *necessary* Step of continuing the Delegation; and whether he sees any genuine Symptoms of that violent Displeasure, which his Servants have been pleased to ascribe to him, in their formidable and intimidating Comments on this Proceeding. I own, I think there is rather in it an apparent Tenderness of Expression, such as involuntarily slides in, when we are obliged, by Circumstances, to use a Form of Words foreign to our own warm Inclinations.

It is pretty observable, that the Declaration, in this last mentioned Letter, of the Justice that had been done our Nation, in the Representation of their affectionate Dispositions, is not only brought in, in a very awkward and laboured Manner, as if from a Consciousness of a *Necessity* of some such Assertion,

Affertion, but is also indirectly introduced without exprefs *Authority*, join'd immediately in the ſame Paragraph, to a perſonal Obſervation of the Letter-Writer, and reſting entirely on his ſingle Teſtimony for its Truth.

The irremoveable Impreſſion made on his Maſteſty's Mind by *his Experience of his Servants Abilities and Fidelity, in the Diſcharge of the moſt important Truſts, and their Zeal for his Service*, ſupported by that inimitable *Greatneſs of Soul* which baffles all *Miſrepresentation*, and has truly diſtinguiſhed his Character through every Period of his glorious Life, is the Joy, the ſure Refuge and Conſolation of us his Subjects; and (unleſs we flatter our Merits) the Ground of all our Hope, the inſpiring Motive of our Conduct, and the Baſis of all that Certainty of his Friendſhip and Favour, which, as, I hope, has been ſhewn, muſt neceſſarily reſult to our Contemplation, and animate us againſt more formidable Oppoſition than our preſent Adverſaries will be ever able (with proper Caution on our Side) to make. We are, in the general, and have ſhewn ourſelves ſo, moſt inviolably attached to his royal Succeſſion and Interests: Our preſent Parliament have long gloried in promoting his Eaſe and Glory with the warmeſt Affection; and, when by the deepeſt and moſt dangerous Deſigns, the Acceſſion of his illuſtrious Family was rendered, in the higheſt Meaſure, precarious; when to aſſert *its* Rights, or reſuſe calumniating *its* Dignity, was a more hateful Crime than *Treaſon*; then were the moſt hazardous Demonſtrations, of the trueſt Zeal in *its* Behalf, nobly and repeatedly diſplay'd, by that excellent, and IMMUTABLY-LOYAL Gentleman, who is at the Head of our national Aſſociation; at a Time, when many, very many, *now* diſtinguiſhed by their Clamour in *Indication of Government*, and moſt recommendatory Scur-

rility against HIM, were as distinguish'd by their Loudness and Assiduity in Favour of their *exiled Prince*; and the Majority of the Remainder are tainted with the same hereditary Principles, by the Prevalence of Blood, or the more incorrigible Venom of Education.

Pardon me, my Lord, for having detained you thus long on this Subject; it was hard to shake it off, and I endeavoured to be as concise as possible. I shall be much pleased, if these, my private Sentiments, should meet your Lordship's, and the Reader's, Approbation; as I pretend to no more than plain Reasoning on the Facts which have fallen in my Way, so I expect to be exempt from the Imputation of an assuming *Politician*: Though I must confess, the Obviousness of the Truths I have endeavoured to evince, gives me some Hope of the *Justice* of my Observations, however they may fail in their *Novelty*. Where I have used Analogy, it seems to me, in no Sort forced, nor is there any Supposition formed, but results, with the greatest Ease, from known Facts and the Nature of Things. The Method of Deduction I have gone into, no Person sure will be prejudiced against, who reflects, that no better can possibly be supplied, where *they* only are in the *Secret*, whose Interests essentially depend on its Concealment; and, that where Statesmen are concerned, as little Stress as possible is to be laid upon *Appearances*.

What has been said on this Subject, will, it is hoped, at least, be deemed a sufficient Answer to all that our poor Gentleman has endeavour'd at in his Dedication, and elsewhere, in regard to the Memorial, the Lord H——'s Letter, (which he quotes with much more Reverence than his Texts of Scripture) and the Affair of the renown'd *Gimcrack*; who, as he affirms in *Page* 13. he is *really* inform'd, has, *in Fact*, perform'd the



the Restitution decreed ; a fresh Instance of our Author's Modesty and Veracity ! Good God, what Readers does he expect to meet with ! — But, above all, the Notoriety of the Facts I have mentioned, I have Reason to hope, will, in some Sort, tend to silence this intrepid Advocate, and be entirely decisive of our Controversy. I could have branched into many illustrating Particulars, all tending to the same destructive End, among which the fatal Stroke so evidently made at our Linen Manufacture, and palliated in a Manner so inclusive of the most insolent Contempt for the Genius of this People, is not the least ; but I fear'd being too prolix for the proper Limits of a *Letter*. Enough has been said however, I believe, for that final Issue on which, in the 4th Side of his Dedication, with the most consummate and ridiculous Fool-hardiness, he rests the whole Merits of the Dispute.

Begging Forgiveness, and very penitential for my Digression from my Author, I return, resolved to stick more closely to him for the future, and comment on his many Excellencies. One occurs this Moment to my Eye wandering over his Leaves in Search of Matter, and is, in some Sort, connected with the foregoing Subject. It is a high Stroke of his Abilities in *retorting* : The Foundation, this : He had in his *Inquiry*, Page 35. asserted, that it was our Duty sometimes to *humour* our Governors, though their Demands may fall short, or go beyond, what, in Strictness, we may have a *Right* to expect : I took the Pains, in the 33d Page of my *Letter*, to say a few Words in Confutation of this wretched threadbare Pulpit-Introduction of Slavery, and particularly, that the *Magistrate* never desired to be *humour'd*, but with a bad Design : “ O,” says my Friend the *Inquirer*, in Page 38. “ have I caught you, Sir ? Now G——, our present Sove-  
 reign,

“ reign, has desired his Subjects here to concur  
 “ in making the Government of his Deputy easy,  
 “ *Ergo*, we are to rest assured, by *that* Rule,  
 “ that he has some bad Design.” The Powers  
 of Logic! Thus have I seen a weak ungainly  
 Fellow give his Forehead a deep Wound with  
 a Back-sword, in making a furious Stroke, which  
 never reach’d his Adversary. I do not know  
 whether I can make it clear to my Author, but  
 almost every other Person will see, that, by all  
 the Rules of common Sense, as well as Argu-  
 mentation, he has fairly asserted, that this his  
 Majesty’s Request is not exactly what we have a  
*Right* to expect, and in which he must be *hu-*  
*mour’d*, if he is comply’d with; for, by keeping  
 an Eye to the Terms of the Sentiment which is  
 the original Ground of the Argument, it is plain  
 that, by his Rejoinder, he substitutes the King’s  
 Desire as an Instance of the *Demands of a Gover-*  
*nor going beyond, or falling short of, what, in Stric-*  
*ness, we have a Right to expect*, and predicates this  
 Sentiment of *that*; whereas I had spoken of the  
*Magistrate* in general, and shew’d plainly, by the  
 subsequent Context, that I did not, and could  
 not, include our Sovereign in the Predicament,  
 but his *Servants*, for *whose* Advantage the Doc-  
 trine had been first broached: *He*, however, is  
 pleased to apply it to his Majesty, and, whimsi-  
 cally enough, dedicates it to him in whose Favour  
*that Request* was made. But, perhaps, he is  
 playing *Hippomenes* on us in this Place, as he tells  
 us in *Page 6.* is his Custom. And this is only  
 one of his *Golden Apples* of Amusement; a good  
 lucky Thought that! a never failing Come-off  
 from the Consequences of publish’d Nonsense!  
 But, unhappily, none worse adapted to the Use  
 of it than our Author: Facetiousness is but a  
 poor Refuge for impotent Virulence, and ex-  
 ploded Scurrility.

This

This happy Talent of his, my Lord, leads me to another Paragraph beginning in his 11th Page, fraught with very curious Sentiments, and set off with all the Advantages of Humour; such, indeed, as this Gentleman possesses in all the Purity that is to be found in that honourable Quarter of *London* from whence it derives its Appellation; which Truth, if any one contests, I refer them to the Perusal of all his literary Endeavours; or, as a convincing Specimen of the whole, to the Paragraph now before us. The Intent of it is to *prove* how absolutely necessary a Trip to foreign political Academies is to the Knowledge of the Interests, and a right Administration, of this Kingdom. From his Fund of *Learning* one would have expected a Plan of Antiquity to be recommended: But, to this, there were two great Objections; first, that such a Plan contains too much *Licentiousness* in its Nature for a Disposition so *rebellious* as *ours*; and, secondly, we are to remember, my Lord, that all his Patrons, our Reformers in Government, have been *Travellers*. Here, indeed, we see the manyfold good Effects of this important Circumstance of Education; briefly these; a foreign *Gusto*; *French* and *Italian* Maxims of Dominion; a refined Contempt for our Country, unbiassed even though we eat the Bread of it; and an Abhorrence of its old fashioned Policy and Manners. Nay, my Lord, you see how these Advantages diffuse: Here is our Author now, who, by even being an humble Admirer, has caught the very *Spirit*, *Taste*, and *Stile*; *Ballinasloe*, *Mullingar*, and *Skibareen*. — Odious Sounds! full of nothing but Biting, *Laziness*, and the Vermin of *damn'd Irish Spalpeens*! Pretty Eccho! — Why, my Lord, the very Pickings of polite Conversation afford Matter for solid Argument and Confutation; and one has but to run the Changes on *Graziers*, *Faction*, *Claret*,  
*Squires*,

*Squires*, and *Tobacco*, to infuse a Resolution into a whole People of changing every experienced Measure, and plunging *Head and Ears* into the Torrent of *Reformation*.

The only Thing that sticks with me, my Lord, is, to know how we contrived before the Importation of these polish'd Foreigners; we were, doubtless, *Brutes, Animals*, and *Wretches*: But yet, my Lord, we lived, and we lived in Peace and Happiness, though so uncivilized and uninform'd; and it is problematical with me whether it would be wise or eligible to run the Hazards of Refinement. I fancy our Projectors must make the *grand Tour* again before their Schemes prove adequate to the Importance of their Designs; nay, I doubt whether any Thing under the *Ratio ultima* of *Paris*, will be effectual enough to convince the *stupid Perseverance* of our *Irish* Gentry, that *they are not only unfit for the Management of the Helm, or even to work the Ship, but are real and great Incumbrances to its Sailing* \*, and that, in order to its being the better piloted to the desired *Port*, they should lend their utmost Endeavours to disengage it of such Lumber, by heaving themselves *over-board*.

If we can, therefore, be content to jog on in our old insipid Way, I cannot help thinking, that the same Degree of Happiness may be perpetuated by the same Means which have hitherto supported it, without attempting to adopt any foreign critical Intrigues or *Machiavelian* Niceties in Policy; these are, I fear, as foreign to our national *Genius* and *Honesty*, as unnecessary, if not destructive, to the Preservation of our plain, well-ballanced, well-settled, System of Government, and the Support and Promotion of the thriving Situation of our Manufactures and Husbandry.

The

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\* Political Pastime, Page 11.



human Power can disunite them from it. Men, who know enough of foreign Policies to despise them, and love and admire their own the more; Men possessed of that *Insolence of Understanding*, which our Author joins as essential to the landed Interest \*, and which excites that noble, *haughty, and contemptuous Disdain* of the empty and ridiculous Thundering of Power, and the paltry Gliftenings of Corruption, put forth by the empty Hope of unexperienced Zealots to draw them from the self-evident Interests of their Country; Men, not cemented (as the same ingenious and worthy Gentleman affirms they are) by *Ignorance* and *implicit Veneration* of their Leader, but by a much stronger, BECAUSE AN HONESTER, Tye; an Union of the same great and common Concern. This, their Conduct, when labouring under every possible Disadvantage, evinces to Demonstration; and this is the highest Character that can be given any public CAUSE — An unparalleled Instance! reflecting unparalleled and immortal Honour on every Member of that Association, and the worthy Principal, whose well-proved Excellence spread Confidence, Spirit, and Unanimity through the Whole, and threw a Damp on every Measure of our Enemies!

Praise, my Lord, has acquired such a Disreputation from its Abuse, and the Paucity of real Objects, that, to attempt it, is as hazardous, as to restrain from it is sometimes most difficult and uneasy. Thus is the highest Merit often abridged of its Due, and an honest Mind debarr'd from the grateful Task of paying that Tribute, which universal Obligations exact from every Individual of the Community. The only Encouragement to break through this Timidity of Censure

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\* Political Pastime, Page 26.

sure is, where the Acknowledgments of the Virtue we admire, are as universal and uncontested, as its Influence is great and salutary. But here again we are distressed ; for, though secure from Exaggeration, we incur Presumption in attempting a Portrait already drawn in inimitable, unfading, Colours in every Breast of the Society : This Reflection, the Gentleman last pointed at, suggested. By the Nature of my Subject I have once or twice been led into a Feature of his Character, but my Diffidence hinders me from attempting a compleat Delineation, and such an Attempt would gratify none but myself. I cannot, however, avoid to start to your Lordship's Recollection a Sketch of Painting by an eminent Hand, which you will think comes the nearest, of any Thing we have, to a Character you know. I mean Mr. *Pope's* Lines on Sir *William Trumball*. Every Person will be more ready to *apply* them than the *Proprietor*.

*A pleasing Form ; a firm, yet cautious Mind ;  
Sincere, though prudent ; constant, yet resign'd ;  
Honour unchang'd, a Principle profess'd,  
Fix'd to one Side, but mod'rate to the rest ;  
AN HONEST COURTIER, YET A PATRIOT TOO,  
JUST TO HIS PRINCE, AND TO HIS COUNTRY  
TRUE.*

*Fill'd with the Sense of Age, the Fire of Youth,  
A Scorn of Wrangling, yet a Zeal for Truth ;  
Agen'rous Faith, from Superstition free ;  
A Love to Peace, and Hate of Tyranny.—*

For the remaining two Lines — Long, very long, gracious God ! may we want the grievous, dreadful, Necessity of their Application !

Among numberless Instances of our Author's striving to ingratiate himself by the lowest and

most ridiculous Falshoods that a Poverty of Soul, and mercenary Dependence, can inspire, pray, my Lord, did you observe the *Reflection* thrown on this Gentleman's Ancestor, so mortifying and confounding ! But it would have sufficiently answered his Purposes, one would think, had he adhered to the Truth : For (besides other *Errata*) the worthy old Nobleman has left it on Record, in his own Hand, that he had *Twenty-seven* good Pounds in his Pocket, and *three Shillings* into the Bargain ; and I think for so much we may take his Word. But however, my Lord, odd as this may appear to you, and me, and 'Thousands more, yet it is but common Justice to allow my Author to know the Humour of those he writes for ; and, I protest, I do not doubt but such a Writer may be so acceptable, where Iniquity and Weakness prevail together, that *Cabbins* and *Spalpeens* may be applauded as invincible Arguments in Favour of the *Union*, and his *Scotch Proverb*, a Demonstration of the P——'s being necessarily a Friend to this Country, while *Mattocks*, *Spades*, and *Plow-shares* undeniably evince their hated Opposer to be unworthy of private Esteem, and unqualified for public Administration ; the *Fattening for Lust*, and *getting his Mother's Maid with Child*, are irresistably arch and waggish, and the *Burden of the Cuckoo* is one of the best Jokes in the World.

But, my Lord, my Letter swells too much, and to descant on all his Littleneesses, of Sentiment, Principle, and Diction, would be synonymous with a Comment on every Line. The Character is no more than we see every Day, one of the Bulk of lower Party-Followers ; I could point out some Hundreds in my little Sphere, all equally qualified, but in Self-Sufficiency and Scraps of Antiquity, which has kept them from  
*recording*



*recording* themselves in Print. I am quite ashamed of having said so much of him; it can benefit no one but his Printer.

The Public have, indeed, by all Accounts I have received, anticipated me the Trouble of remarking further on my Author; and, to their Contemplation and Decision, I heartily submit his many Assertions, or Insinuations rather, of political Facts, and the Strength of his political Reasoning. His *Cant* Repetition of *our* imitating the censured *Lucas*, the old Story of his Party, by which they endeavoured to pervert to our Reproach a real Act of Merit, and a convincing Proof of our Affection; to confound the dangerous, unprovoked, Sallies of a single Enthusiast, with the cool, regular, and *defensive* Conduct of a NATION against a violent, real Attack, on their Interests and Happiness! — *His* Story of the Bridge, taken out of the same Common-Place, another Instance of public Spirit and pacific Inclination, turned, by the same metamorphosing Faculty, into private Job and hostile Disposition — *His* repeated Attempts to picture us as setting up for entire *Independency*, drawn also from the before-mentioned inestimable Sources; and the other various Particulars of his valuable Performance; among the Rest, the *Cork* Election; to which however, for the Assistance of my Reader, I will beg Leave to say a few Words; some Circumstances of Opportunity enable me, and, as a private Subject, it may stand in Need of an Illustration.

*Did we never hear of any Job in that Affair?* Yes, indeed, we did. Every Person, who knows any Thing of the Affair, knows it to be all one labour'd Complication of *Job*; a Variety of the basest and lowest Measures taken in Behalf of the *Boatman*: Instead of his being *invited by a Majority to stand*, (as our Author, with his usual Modesty,

deftly, affirms) it is notorious that, to this Day, it is, and ever muft be, a moot Point which Way the Superiority would have inclined, notwithstanding the indefatigable Pains, Expence, and Corruption, by which that Gentleman's Side was advantaged. The Conteft, indeed, was an exact Refemblance of the more important one *above*: The fame Circumftances in Miniature diftinguifh'd the Candidates, and the Means were correfpondent to their Merits and Pretentions. The *Boatman's* Antagonift had all the *natural, juft, and powerful* Advantages that could refult from *Nativity, Connections, Family, Property in and about the Place contended for, hereditary Principles, and a Character of artlefs Honesty*, without either the *Means* or *Disposition* for undue Influence. He, on the contrary, counterbalanced all, by availing himfelf of the wrong-headed Obftinacy which diftinguifhes the illuftrious Adminiftration of that City: To oppofe is all their Aim; and he was fuffer'd to take the Lead by Virtue of a hearty Concurrence in their Sentiments, with the additional Recommendation of *Fox-hunting, Merry-making, and elefion-neering Affability*.

That thefe are Facts, cannot be controverted; and the Reader will fee them naturally arife from Reflection on the Nature of the Thing. As a trading City, great Room muft be fupply'd for *Influence* in the *Revenue*; as a Corporation engrossed by *the fame* Intereft, Votes are profufely beftow'd on all who, from their never-flinching Conduct, or low Circumftances, are thought devoted to *Direction*. Hence the *Boatman's* Party confifted in the Bulk of *Officers* in precarious Employments, Corporation-Servants, and Mechanics depending for their Bread on the Good-will of the principal Inhabitants. His Adverfary could  
boaft

boast only of Gentlemen, whose Situation and Principles placed them above Corruption or Fear, and made them resolute in excluding a Man so circumstanced, unentitled, unconnected, and so *supported*. Numberless vile Detections were made in the *little* Sphere, and some more important ones from a higher Source : Such, indeed, as constitute an Epitome of their general Measures, and proceed from their *Knowledge in the Dispositions and Tempers of Men*, and *Skill in properly applying to and managing them* \* ; [all which, in my Opinion, is but a Paraphrase on one plain Word] this our Author affirms to be the peculiar Happiness of his Patrons, arising from their courtly Education, and too refined a Stroke of Policy for the Abilities of Country Gentlemen. He, I doubt not, could help us to some Instances of this Kind not come to Light : But, be that as it may, a sufficient Number occurred, capable of the strongest Evidence, to induce the *Boatman* to relinquish his Pretensions ; such, indeed, as he well knew, must, with the greatest Justice, avoid his Election should it succeed, expose the Reputation of him and his Supporters, and, by their Flagrancy, and dangerous Tendency, might, perhaps, afford the most reasonable Ground for a Parliamentary Animadversion.

This, my Lord, is the true Sketch of the *Job* of the *Cork* Election, as the concurrent Testimonies of all candid Persons, who know any Thing of the Matter, can verify ; and, indeed, the Party it bears hard on, are so much ashamed of it, that none of them, but my Author, who, by his frequent Blabbing, is apparently but half-informed in their Maxims of Conduct, would venture to start it to the Public Recollection. This, my  
 Lord,

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\* Candid Inquiry, Page 35.

Lord, is one of these *complimenting Corporations* mentioned by our Author; and, to add all due Weight to these Compliments, we have but to observe an Instance or two among many of their notorious Abilities and moving Principles. To preserve their Independency, and prevent their falling under the Influence of OUR COUNTRY'S FRIEND, they complimented his, and the Kingdom's Enemies, with the entire and discretionary Disposal of themselves, their Corporation, and their every Measure; and are ready, at this Day, to hang themselves for conferring the Magistracy on a *Gentleman*, who, contrary to the Maxims of the true *mercantile Perseverance*, would not contribute to the Kingdom's Ruin, to gratify a private Pique, but joined in its Preservation under the Banner of him whom *they* so implacably hate.

As my Author mean'd no Harm to me, so, I believe, it will hardly be just to take him to Task for the Blows he has taken so much Pains to give the Gentleman, who is so unfortunate as not only to have my Pamphlet imputed to him, but also to bear all the personal Abuse it has excited. However, as he has incurr'd it all on my Account, so it may be necessary to become his Champion in as many Words as the Cause deserves. I will therefore only desire my Author, when he writes again, to keep clear of outrageous Scurrility: I can assure him it has done him infinite Mischief already, and brought much Disreputation on his Performances, particularly the last: Such a Conduct, indeed, would hurt the best Cause in the World, and adds double Deformity and accumulative Odium to a bad one, which stands no Chance of being tolerably received, but when under the Cover of cool, impartial Discussion, chaste Sentiment, and decent Plausibility.

He

He is much mistaken if he thinks he is concealed, for I know him well; though that Knowledge came by Accident, and not Curiosity; for it is of little Consequence to the World, or to me, who he is. Though his Bravadoes are meant for another, yet this I must say, that could the public Interest, or any one material Purpose on Earth be secured by it, I would, with the greatest Alacrity, emerge from my Privacy, and stand with as much Unconcern, as I now write, the utmost Fury of any of these his formidable Patrons, whom his abject Veneration magnifies into Deities. Though he asserts some uncommon Contrivance in the publishing of my *Letter*, he well knows it was advertised in the Papers for many Weeks, and sold with the usual Notoriety. What it is he presumes on (or his Printer in affixing his Name) may be easily conjectured; but I can't help thinking his Obscurity and Insignificance are his best Dependence; for, without in the least impeaching the Liberty of the Press, an Assertion of this Kingdom being nothing more than a *Province to England* \*, and a *Right in them to tax us at Discretion*, would, in an Object of sufficient Consequence, stand a very good Chance of a very undesirable Animadversion.

What Penance or Atonement, he means to expect by his *Advertisement*, for what I had advanced in my Letter, I protest, I am at a Loss to know. I said nothing but what was notorious, except the Information I had from *London* of the *intended* Union, the Truth of which I reiterate, and could shew the Voucher; nor will the Authority of it be impeached, should the Design not be attempted, for that will easily admit of a Solution. As to the Desertion accruing from his

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Patron's

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\* Political Pastime, Page 19

Patron's disgusting Insolence, it is known to be true, and, did we want a Confirmation, our Author's supereminent Indignation at the Mention, would, I think, be sufficient.

And now, my Lord, what have I more to say? To wish with all my Soul, and all my Faculties, that our Enemies may relinquish their vain and impracticable Projects, and the Society recover that Calm and Harmony so essential to its Felicity; that Ambition may soar still higher, not content with being distinguish'd without being truly *honour'd*, and striving to the Temple of Fame by the only Path which will not mislead, the Track of VIRTUE. That Priesthood may adhere to the Doctrines of the Religion that has appointed it, and preserve some Reverence and Gratitude for the Kingdom that supports its Affluence. And that Heaven will shower every Blessing on the inviolable Integrity and Fortitude of the DEFENDERS OF THEIR COUNTRY!

These occasional Interruptions of Bliss, these chequer'd Dispensations of the Almighty Hand, the frail, infirm State of faulty Man requires. In a constant Tranquillity we should grow too careless, too sufficient, and overweening; perhaps, forgetful of that Providence on whom our every Breath depends; every generous Principle would decay for Want of Use, and our Natures become incapable of any Share of Perfection. An Occasion like this awakens the latent Fires of every Virtue, gives every noble Spirit full Play for its Excellence, and strikes out and energizes each real Character, so as at once to fulfil and justify the ALL-WISE Decrees. When the Storm has blown over, every Breast is more highly qualify'd for the Exertion of social Excellence, and the Relish of the inestimable Blessings of Innocence and Liberty.

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We hear of a Probability of Accommodation : No Event so desirable : And it were a Crime to doubt of its being grounded both firmly and justly. We may sleep secure of the Conduct of our national Guardians, who will consider our Adversaries in a Light, that Experience has long warranted, similar to the Character of the *French Nation* : Like them aspiring to universal Monarchy, and like them fighting by powerful *Corruption* ; inclined to Treaties only from their Weakness, and tenacious of them only as Means of more dangerous Attacks ; indirect in every Measure, and designing in every Condescension ; like them too, to be trusted only when disabled, and the *Nerves* of their Power to be *cut*, to produce any Continuance of our Security. Peace can bring no great Sweets while Treachery remains in Vigour. In the human Body, if a Sore should arise, even the Patient would prefer an Operation of some Pain to remove it, while the *Constitution* has the Superiority, to a superficial and temporary Healing, which would add to its Malignity, and enlarge its Influence : And in the Case of our Body politic, I am as thoroughly easy in the Conduct of our Protectors, as I should be in the other, were my Father my Physician.

If my Author will promise not to charge me with Incoherence, I would say three Words to those Gentlemen, who, from a noble Principle, are attach'd to the basest Cause ; I mean those whom distributive Favours have obliged. It is hard to speak to such ; for though one may have the greatest Hope of the Force of Reason where virtuous Motives are the Source of Conduct, yet Gratitude is a Sensation so ardent, so possessing the Whole of an honest Soul, that it becomes insensible to every Representation against the Objects of its Warmth. What then can be

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